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## THE IRISH CHURCH BILL IN COMMITTEE.

THE House of Commons during the past ten days has had some nights of hard work—at least, of hard talking—on the Irish Church Bill; and the Opposition, who bore by far the largest share in the palaver, seems bent on showing how well it merits the title of "stupid party," bestowed upon it by Mr. Mill. It has forced on repeated divisions, only to incur ignominious defeat; it has uttered lugubrious prophecies, only to be laughed at; it has insisted on delivering speeches and venting vituperative abuse, only to be treated with silent contempt; and in its whole tactics it has laboured to show that it is weak in brains as well as in numbers. These remarks apply not merely to the rank and file, but also to the leaders of the Conservatives, who have shown a lack of strategy and indulged in a wildness of assertion for which it is difficult to account except upon the hypothesis that officers and men are alike blinded by passion. Mr. Disraeli himself appears either to have lost his head or to be simply fooling his followers to the top of their bent. The right hon. gentleman is accustomed to darken counsel by bursts of nonsensical rhodomontade and to conceal his intents under a cloud of grandiloquent phrases; but even he out-Disraelied Disraeli in the debate on the 2nd clause of the bill. He asked for a continuance of the legislative connection of the Irish Church with that of England for the sake of preserving, through the action of the Royal supremacy, purity of doctrine and uniformity of worship and discipline in the disestablished Church.

Now, would it not have been well, ere this demand was advanced, to have inquired how far purity of doctrine and uniformity of worship and discipline are secured by the supposed magical influence of the Royal supremacy in the Church of England itself? Notoriously the Royal supremacy does not secure these things here, notwithstanding all the temptations of worldly advantages the English Church offers for the promotion of perfect harmony and uniformity; and is it likely to be more effective in Ireland when no such inducements exist? The Ritualists on the one side and the extreme Evangelicals on the other are splitting the Church of England in twain, despite the controlling power of the vaunted Royal supremacy; and do Mr. Disraeli and his supporters suppose that like causes will not produce similar effects on the other side of St. George's Channel, whatever legal fictions they may devise to the contrary? Assuredly they will, and with tenfold greater intensity too, as well from the excitable character of the Irish race, clerical and lay, aboriginal and imported, as from the feeling that is sure to arise that they are subjected to State control while deprived of State support. We once ventured to express the opinion that Irish Episcopalians would not be ambitious of State restraint after they were denuded of State pay—that they would repudiate political chains when no longer in the enjoyment of political advantages; but, if Mr. Disraeli and Dr. Ball be true witnesses, it would seem that the Irish Church has been so long inured to the cage that she would not deem it bliss to be free. To believe this, however, would be to ignore human nature, and especially Irish human nature; so we may safely conclude that the plea in favour of preserving to the Irish Church, when dis-

established, the benefits of the Royal supremacy, was only put forward as a blind to cover the real aim of the amendment—namely, to take the sting out of the bill by expunging the disestablishment clause. But, in that case, what are we to think of the intelligence that could hope to palm off such a transparent "dodge" under such more than transparently fictitious pretences? There is no escape on this point from one of three conclusions: first, that the Conservative leaders have degenerated into shallow imbeciles; second, that they deem their opponents to be shallow imbeciles; or, third, that they know their own clients to be shallow imbeciles, who will swallow any nostrum, however absurd.

Ireland in the same way as the law enforces adherence to the terms of any other compact into which men voluntarily enter. The Irish Episcopal Church will henceforth be free to adopt whatever doctrines, forms of worship, and modes of discipline she pleases, whether in connection with the Church of England or as an independent body; and the Crown, through the courts of law, will enforce conformity to those doctrines, adherence to those forms of worship, and obedience to those modes of discipline upon all members of the Irish Episcopal Church, clerical and lay, so long as they remain members; and more than this the Crown—that is, the law—cannot give, and the Church, established or disestablished, cannot require. To fancy that there is any occult

influence in the Crown, or any magic power in the phrase "Royal supremacy," is a mere delusion unworthy of consideration. Moreover, the State has no right to bind a church, either in doctrine, discipline, or worship, which has ceased, as a church, to owe it allegiance; and this will be the position of the Episcopal Church in Ireland after disestablishment, as it is the position of all non-established churches throughout the empire. To enforce adherence to compacts and to protect individuals from tyranny, the Crown—that is, the law—always will and must be supreme; but to prescribe doctrines, forms of worship, and modes of discipline to non-endowed churches, is beyond its province.

And this recalls to mind Mr. Disraeli's other astounding assertion, that the Roman Catholic Church is established in Ireland and in every country where it has obtained a footing. If the right hon. gentleman means by this that a church is established wherever it exists, it follows that we have a multiplicity of established churches in her Majesty's dominions, and that, consequently, there is either no distinctive State religion at all, or that the State has many religions. For instance, Methodism exists in Wales: therefore it is the established church of Wales; the Free and the United Presbyterian Churches exist in Scotland: therefore they are the established churches of Scotland; Brahminism exists in India: therefore Brahminism is the established religion of India; Popery exists in Canada: therefore Popery is the established faith of Canada; and so on. And if we go beyond the confines of the British empire, the absurdity of the assertion is still more apparent. Mormonism, for example, exists in the United States: therefore Mormonism is the established religion of the United States; Protestantism exists in France, Spain, Austria, and other countries: there-

fore Protestantism is established in those countries. Can absurdity be carried further than this? and is not the man who advances such an argument either grossly self-deceived or grossly deceiving others?

This, by-the-by, is not the only point on which Conservatives just now are both grossly deceived and grossly self-deceiving. "The country won't stand it, Sir;" "The people will not submit to it;" "It is a violation of the national conscience," are expressions constantly heard in regard to the abolition of the State Church in Ireland, when one happens to come into contact with opponents of the measure, and the idea conveyed is echoed by men like Mr. Newdegate when they assert that they represent the opinions



"CURIOSITY."—(FROM A PICTURE BY BERANGER, COPIED BY PERMISSION OF MESSRS. GOUPIL.)

The last, we think, is the most probable hypothesis of the three.

It is hardly worth while discussing the legal bearings of this bogus notion about the Royal supremacy; for it is clear to all who will and can think out the matter that the "Royal supremacy" is only another phrase for the "supremacy of the law," for the Crown does, and can do, nothing except in virtue of law; and that the influence of this supremacy, whatever it may be worth, will be as effective after disestablishment as it is now—that whenever any question of property is concerned, the law will enforce, as far as law can, adherence to the doctrines, discipline, and forms of worship adopted by the free Episcopal Church of





of a majority of the British people. Now, what do men who utter such phrases mean by them? Do they deceive themselves, or do they seek to deceive others? We are loth to believe the latter hypothesis true; for we cannot suppose that honest men—and especially “honourable members”—would knowingly say the thing that is not. We are forced, therefore, to seek another explanation; and we find it in this—that the champions of the Irish Church, in Parliament and out of it, are very much like their clients the clergy: they live, and move, and have their being in a little narrow world of their own, and neither know, nor hear, nor sympathise with, anything beyond it; they frequent only the same circles, they meet only the same persons, they tell each other only the same things, they echo and hear re-echoed only the same sentiments; and they come to believe that they and their little cliques and coteries constitute the people of Great Britain and Ireland. Hence it is we are told that the country will never submit to the disestablishment of the Irish Church, in the face of the fact that the country has returned an overwhelming majority to the House of Commons pledged to accomplish that special work; hence, too, we hear it reiterated that the bill will never pass, in the face of division after division in the Commons' House, in which the votes recorded number more than three to two in favour of the Government measure. Is not this a piece of gross self-deception, which is destined to be rudely dissipated, as similar self-delusions have been dissipated before? Of a surety, if men, and especially Conservative and clerical men, had but eyes to see and ears to hear what is passing around them, they would be delivered from many an awkward dilemma, and saved many a humiliating defeat; ay, and be restrained from indulgence in much of the violent and abusive language constantly uttered when matters ecclesiastical, and particularly matters of ecclesiastical revenue, are in question.

#### “CURIOSITY.”

“WHATEVER people can want to be shut up all to themselves for, nobody can make out, and all in a muddle, too, with the dust settled upon everything, and not a place to sit down, let alone anything put straight. See if I don't just go in and tidy up a bit, now there's a chance, and then I shall see what it all means by master going on day and night almost in his room, with only just a ring at the bell to say bring me up a crust of bread and a glass of wine, or a cup of coffee; and ten to one but he don't drink half of it when he's got it; to say nothing of the aggravation of the door being locked, as if there was some sort of mystery that other folk mustn't try to find out, and couldn't understand, as though we were all brutes; and him with not a word to throw at a dog, though people do say that he's a great man, though how he can be and yet live in such a mess, with not a duster or a broom from week's end to week's end, is more than I can make out.”

This, perhaps, is something like the soliloquy which preceded the entrance into the world of art of the comely young housemaid in M. Béranger's picture, in which the discoverer stands puzzled by that figure with its finger on its lips.

The first duty is to dust; and when once dusted, what does the silent boy suggest to that silent observer? What is the lesson that she will learn from her stolen visit? and what unspoken reproaches does the artist's work suggest, now that she has reduced things to the orderly disorder which may almost drive him to despair? We leave the picture to tell its own story, as all pictures must or should, whatever may be the motive of the curiosity with which we regard them.

A NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL is now in course of erection in Everton-road, Liverpool; and last Saturday morning some of the workmen, in removing a block of stone weighing between 3 cwt. and 4 cwt., placed it upon a newly-built arch. The latter at once gave way, precipitating the whole of them into a vault beneath. The block of stone fell upon a man of the name of William Elliott, and he was immediately killed.

CONFERENCE OF MANAGERS OF REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTIONS.—A conference, convened by the Reformatory and Refuge Union, of magistrates, honorary and paid managers, matrons, and other persons connected with reformatory and industrial institutions, commenced on Tuesday, at the Hanover-square Rooms, under the vice-presidency of the Right Hon. Stephen Cave, M.P. The attendance was very good, members of the conference coming from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Perth, Aberdeen, Dublin, Cork, North Lancashire, Hardwicke, Gloucester, Bristol, &c.

THE POPE AND THE LOTTERY.—A letter from Florence says:—“Thanks to Pius IX., lottery gamblers in Italy have just made a great hit. On Sunday last, April 11, 1869, Pius, ninth Pope of his name, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his first mass, which he said at the age of twenty-six. This last number also corresponds in the lottery-player's guide-book with the word ‘mass,’ as well as with ‘money.’ Nothing could be clearer to all those who had cash to stake and faith in the usual rules, and hundreds, perhaps thousands, of persons played upon the numbers 11, 69, 9, 26. In the Florence weekly drawing of Saturday last all those numbers came out of the wheel. It was what is called a *quine*—that is to say, a gain on the whole five numbers. Those who had backed them all to come out won sums enormous in proportion to the trifling ones they had staked, and the gains of those who had only backed four or three of the numbers were also very great. Incredible stories are current of the fortunes made by indigent players—for it is the poor who chiefly support the lottery. There is no doubt that the Government has had to make very heavy payments to winners. It is an old belief with numbers of persons in Italy that Pius IX. has the evil eye, and in this instance the Italian Treasury may well share that opinion. But what goes out to-day comes back to-morrow, for nothing stimulates the Italian propensity to lottery-playing more than a brilliant hit of this kind.”

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS, SOUTH KENSINGTON.—Last Saturday there was a very fine show of spring flowers at these gardens. The flowers were arranged in the centre of the conservatory, along which building two stands were arrayed, leaving a wide space in front of the steps leading to the corridors and galleries. On the lower landing in front of the mirrors a picked body of musicians from the fine band of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), now under the leadership of Mr. Charles Godfrey, played a selection of operatic and ball-room music, with an effect well subdued, by reduction in the number of brass instruments, to the acoustical conditions of a glass interior. The full band is engaged, we hear, for the entire season, to take part in the performances on the terrace. If the spring shows may be taken as an earnest of the coming summer meetings in the grounds of the Horticultural Society, we have every reason to be satisfied with the prospect. A magnificent and gorgeous and brilliant display, of course; but it was in the smaller classes of plants that the main strength of the exhibition was found. Among the variegated kinds the hardy specimens shown by Messrs. J. Salter and Son are perhaps the most strikingly curious, the Beta Chilensis, though common enough, being conspicuous by its strange and vivid contrasts of colour. The genus Coleus, an inferior member of the labiate family, now growing very popular, made a fine show among the variegated-foilage plants on Saturday. A new strain is the Princess Royal, which appeared in the collection that gained Mr. Charles Turner an extra prize. The quick growth and easy culture of these plants will doubtless aid in recommending them to amateurs. The grower whom we have just mentioned was first in the two classes of arcularias; and his, too, were the six azaleas that took the chief prize open to nurserymen only, the first in the competition of amateurs being Mr. G. Wheeler, gardener to Sir Francis Goldsmid. Calceolarias, cyclamens, cinerarias, and primulas were all in good form, though the second in the list did not come up to the standard of the opening spring show. The principal exhibitors and winners of prizes, besides those we have already named, were Messrs. J. Dobson and Sons; Mr. J. James, gardener to W. E. Watson, Esq., of Isleworth; Mr. G. Fairbairn, gardener to the Duke of Northumberland; J. Wiggins, gardener to W. Beck, Esq.; Mr. W. Bull, Mr. B. S. Williams, Messrs. Reeves Brothers, Miss A. G. Neale, and Mr. T. S. Ware.

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

The Emperor Napoleon celebrated his sixty-second birthday by a grand dinner at the Tuileries on Tuesday evening.

On account of the hundredth anniversary of the birthday of Napoleon I., the August fêtes in Paris this year are, it is said, to last three days—viz., from the 14th to the 16th, instead of one day, as is customary. Marshal Vaillant, Minister of the Emperor's household, is to have the direction of the fêtes.

The Paris *Patrie* says that at the last conference on the Belgian railway dispute M. Frère-Orban was informed that France and Belgium looked upon the question from different points of view, and that the interests which the former defended did not permit it to modify its opinion. This statement seems to confirm a report which has been for some days in circulation in Paris, that the negotiations between the two Governments had come to nothing.

#### BELGIUM.

From Belgium we learn that all the colliers in the district of Borinage have joined the strike, but no further disturbances are reported.

#### ITALY.

A conspiracy is said to have been discovered at Milan on Monday. Six persons were arrested, and the police seized a number of bombs, arms, and documents in cipher.

Count Cambray-Digny, the Finance Minister of Italy, introduced his Budget in the Italian Chamber on Tuesday. He said that there had been a steady increase in revenue and a decrease in expenditure ever since 1867, and that in 1875 he expected they would be in equilibrium. No new taxes were to be imposed, but the system would be reorganised, and public works would be vigorously pushed forward without adding to the burdens of the Treasury. The deficit for the year he estimated at 94,000,000 lire.

The principle of a bill introduced by the Italian Ministry, putting an end to the exemption from the conscription hitherto granted to young men in training for the priesthood, has been approved by the Chamber, the votes being 223 against 25.

The Florence correspondent of the Paris *Débats* says that everybody in Italy is absolutely convinced that the French troops will evacuate the Pontifical territory after the elections which are about to take place in France.

#### SPAIN.

In Monday's sitting of the Constituent Cortes, Senor Figuerola presented his Budget. He estimates the receipts at 2,141,000,000 reals, of which 473,000,000 are derived from taxes upon landed property, 120,000,000 from taxes upon articles of commerce, and 45,000,000 from succession duty. He proposes to abolish the duty upon direct inheritances, to maintain the tax of 5 per cent upon incomes and salaries, and to suppress the salt monopoly in January, 1870, and the tobacco monopoly in July of the same year. The amount of the floating debt is not to exceed 600,000,000. The reforms of the tariff which Senor Figuerola proposes to introduce will remove all prohibitory duties and establish three categories of extraordinary duties, one of 30 per cent, and in some cases of 35 per cent; the maximum of the fiscal duties is 15 per cent, and those in the third category are of a minimum amount. The duties from 30 to 35 per cent are to be levied upon those articles of merchandise which are at present subject to an excessively high tariff, and these duties are not to be modified for a period of six years, after which they will be gradually decreased.

In Wednesday's debate on the draught of the Constitution, Senor Figuerola said that the only alternative that remained, now that the Monarchists could not find a candidate who would accept the crown, was a Republic or the restoration of the Bourbons. The Minister of the Interior, in reply, said that the Bourbon dynasty was impossible, and the Republic would be a national calamity; but he believed the majority would still be able to find a King. On the night before, at a meeting of the Majority of the Senate, Senor Borguella's motion declaring all branches of the Bourbons ineligible for the throne was discussed; but it was ultimately withdrawn.

The Cortes have given Admiral Topete full powers to man the Spanish fleet, and every available vessel will be sent to Cuba to aid in the suppression of the rebellion in that island.

#### TURKEY.

The Porte has conceded to Servia the right of concluding commercial treaties with foreign countries.

#### EGYPT.

The circumstances of the attempt on the life of the Viceroy of Egypt have been investigated by a Commission of foreign Consuls, who have come to the conclusion that a very foul conspiracy had been formed for the assassination not only of the Viceroy, but of his whole Court on their visit to the theatre.

#### THE UNITED STATES.

Eight war-steamer, mounting seventy-seven guns, have been ordered to reinforce the United States' squadron in the West Indies. According to some reports, this step points to an intention of President Grant to interfere actively in the affairs of Cuba; while others declare that it has for its object merely the protection of American citizens and their interests.

#### PARAGUAY.

The Buenos Ayres *Standard* has had reliable information, which shows that, owing to the complete demoralisation of the Brazilian forces, it must rest with the Argentine Government to bring the struggle with Lopez to an end. The Brazilian army has lost, or is fast losing, all its leaders, it is without horses and ammunition, and all its cavalry is afloat. The Argentine soldiers, on the contrary, are in good health, and their spirit was never better. Lopez, however, who is at the Cordillera de Ascurra, has still a force of 7000 men, with forty pieces of artillery.

A NOVELTY IN SWINDLING.—A number of tradesmen in Manchester and the neighbourhood have been victimised by an adventurer who, last September, made his appearance in the village of Eccles and personated one of the travellers believed to be killed in the Abergele accident, whose name was Ford, but concerning whom no other particulars were forthcoming at the inquest. He professed to have survived the accident, having ridden at the rear of the train, but said he was a helpless invalid, and that he had a demand of £14,000 against the railway company for compensation for the injuries he had sustained, which caused him severe internal pains. On the strength of this story and the statement that he was a commercial traveller whose trade was in precious stones, he rented a villa residence, had it furnished on credit, and lived there with his wife, running up bills for every sort of personal expense. A few days ago he and his wife disappeared, and the house was found empty. The household furniture has since been traced to Blackpool, but not the *rei-diant* Mr. and Mrs. Ford.

THE WRECK OF THE HERMANN, AND LOSS OF 250 LIVES.—By the arrival of the China mail we have particulars of the wreck of the Pacific Mail Company's ship Hermann (previously reported by telegraph), which struck on a reef about seventy-five miles from Yokohama. She was on her way to Sugar Straits, which divide Yezo from the mainland. The Imperial troops have begun to move northwards, and the Hermann had on board 350 soldiers, together with a crew of eighty men. Of the latter, fifty-eight remain alive; of the former it is impossible to say how many. Captain Newell says that he cannot estimate the loss of life. But, from his account of the wreck, it would seem that between 250 and 300 persons had perished. The behaviour of the Japanese soldiers, as described by Captain Newell, is worthy of the highest admiration. There was “no stampede, no disorder,” says the captain; “from the first they were quiet and cool, retaining wonderfully their presence of mind and calmly awaiting the commands of their leader.” After consultation with Captain Newell this officer ordered them to keep in their cabins, which they did until the water rose as the ship settled down, and drove them again on deck. Then, when permission was given to those who chose to take the risk to try to swim on shore, they threw off their clothes, girded round their naked bodies their swords—the living souls of Samurai, and boldly made the attempt, in too many cases, unfortunately, unsuccessfully, for the sea ran high; and though life-belts, of which there was most properly great store on board, preserved them from drowning, most were killed or horribly mutilated by being dashed upon the rocks which fringe the coast.

### MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GRANT ON RECONSTRUCTION.

THE President of the United States, on the 7th inst., sent the following message to Congress:—

“To the Senate and House of Representatives,—  
“While I am aware that the time in which Congress proposes to remain in session is very brief, and that it is its desire, as far as consistent with the public interest, to avoid entering upon the general business of legislation, there is one subject which concerns so deeply the welfare of the country that I deem it my duty to bring it before it. I have no doubt that you will concur with me in the opinion that it is desirable to restore the States which were engaged in the rebellion to their proper relations to the Government and the country at as early a period as the people of those States shall be found willing to become peaceful and orderly communities and to adopt and maintain such constitutions and laws as will effectually secure the civil and political rights of all persons within their borders. The authority of the United States, which has been vindicated and established by its military power, must undoubtedly be asserted for the absolute protection of all its citizens in the full enjoyment of the freedom and security which is the object of the Republican Government. But, whenever the people of a rebellious State are ready to enter in good faith upon the accomplishment of this object, in entire conformity with the constitutional authority of Congress, it is certainly desirable that all causes of irritation should be removed as promptly as possible, that a more perfect union may be established, and the country be restored to peace and prosperity. The Convention of the people of Virginia, which met in Richmond on Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1867, framed a constitution for that State, which was adopted by the Convention on April 17, 1868; and I desire respectfully to call the attention of Congress to the propriety of providing by the law for the holding of an election in that State at the same time during the months of May and June next, under the direction of the military commander of the district, at which the question of the adoption of that Constitution shall be submitted to the citizens of the State; and, if this should seem desirable, I would recommend that a separate vote be taken upon such parts as may be thought expedient, and that at the same time, and under the same authority, there shall be an election for the officers provided under such Constitution; and that the Constitution, or such parts thereof as shall have been adopted by the people, be submitted to Congress on the first Monday of December next for its consideration, so that if the same is then approved the necessary steps will have been taken for the restoration of the State of Virginia to its proper relations to the Union. I am led to make this recommendation from the confident hope and belief that the people of that State are now ready to co-operate with the national Government in bringing it again into such relations to the Union as it ought, as soon as possible, to establish and maintain, and to give to all its people those equal rights under the law which are asserted in the Declaration of Independence, in the words of one of the most illustrious of its sons. I desire also to ask the consideration of Congress to the question whether there is not just ground for believing that the Constitution framed by a convention of the people of Mississippi for that State and once rejected might not be again submitted to the people of that State in like manner, and with the probability of the same result. U. S. GRANT.”  
“Washington, April 7, 1869.”

### THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S SECOND VISIT TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

THE *South Australian Advertiser* of March 2 gives the following summarised account of the second visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to the colony:—

On Monday, Feb. 15, Adelaide was subjected to a double excitement, through the arrival of the Galatea with his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, and the branch mail-steamers with Sir James Fergusson, our new Governor. Sir James and Lady Edith Fergusson had taken their passage for Melbourne, but came direct to Adelaide, on hearing that the Duke was on his way here from Perth. The Galatea anchored off the Semaphore; and his Royal Highness, who was in excellent health and spirits, was brought to Adelaide in Colonel Hamley, the then acting Governor's carriage. On his arrival, he was received with hearty cheers from the crowds that had assembled at Government House-gate. Sir James Fergusson and Lady Edith were met at the port by the Attorney-General and the Under-Secretary. After receiving an address from the port corporation, they proceeded to Adelaide by rail, and, on arriving at the town terminus, received a perfect ovation from the multitude collected there. An address was also presented by the City corporation. Owing to Government House being full, his Excellency and Lady took up their quarters for the night at the York Hotel. On the same evening the Duke attended at the Theatre Royal to witness the performance of “Casey.” Sir James Fergusson and Lady Edith, as well as Colonel and Mrs. Hamley, were also present. It was the opening night of the season, and the reception given to his Royal Highness and the new Governor was most enthusiastic. On Tuesday morning the Prince was present at the Town-hall to witness the swearing in of Sir James Fergusson. The ceremony was an imposing one, and was witnessed by several thousand inhabitants. In the afternoon his Royal Highness paid a visit to Lady Daly at Glenelg. On Wednesday the Duke drove to Highcombe, and in the evening honoured with his presence the colonists' ball at the Townhall. There were from 600 to 600 present, and the ball was a very successful one. On Thursday morning his Royal Highness laid the first stone of the Sailor's Home at the port. He afterwards spent some hours in pigeon-shooting, in pursuance of an invitation given him by the Hamley Gun Club. In the evening he dined at the Adelaide Club, and subsequently met several hundred guests at a party given at Government House. On Friday, after a short visit to the Botanic Gardens, the Duke drove to the Old Adelaide Racecourse, on the East Park lands, where special races had been got up in honour of his visit. The day had been proclaimed a public holiday, and there were not less than 8000 or 9000 people present. The sport was excellent, and his Royal Highness and suite were allowed to mix freely with the crowd, and enjoy themselves as they thought best. Shortly after five o'clock the Prince left the ground amidst a perfect hurricane of cheering, which served as a farewell, for, without delay, he proceeded by special train to the port, and boarded the Galatea, taking a select party, consisting of Sir James Fergusson, Lady Edith, and a few others, to dine with him. They left shortly after midnight, and early on Saturday morning the vessel steamed away. On Thursday and Friday the Galatea was open to the public, and several thousands of visitors availed themselves of the opportunity of inspecting her internal arrangements. During the whole of the Duke's stay the injunctions of the Colonial Secretary that there should be no public demonstrations were scrupulously adhered to. His Royal Highness was allowed perfect liberty to do as he pleased, and he evidently enjoyed thoroughly his short visit.

CLARE-MARKET RAGGED SCHOOL.—The annual meeting of the friends and supporters of this charity was held, on Tuesday evening, at the school-room, Denzell-street, Clare-market.—Mr. J. G. Sillwell, in the absence of Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., presiding. From the report we learn that a small night-school for boys in 1847 formed the germ of the present institution, which now embraces day, night, and Sunday schools; mothers' meeting, clothing fund, penny bank, and numerous other advantages for the poor of this densely-populated district. The committee earnestly appeal for pecuniary help to enable them to carry on successfully the benevolent work.

ROSSINI AND THE MUSIC PUBLISHERS.—Rossini, for composing “The Barber of Seville,” received not quite £80, together with a lodging in the house occupied by Signor Luigi Zamboni—the future Figaro. It may be thought that he at least got something for the copyright of the music. He got nothing for the copyright of the music. He did not even take the trouble to get it engraved; and two of the pieces, the overture (for which the overture to “Aureliano in Palmira” was afterwards substituted) and the scene of the music lesson (originally treated as a concerted piece), were lost. Rossini wrote his operas for stage representation, and thought no more of their publication by means of the press than did Shakspere and Molière of the publication of their plays. Indeed, the first appearance of a complete edition of Rossini's operas was to Rossini himself a surprise, and by no means an agreeable one. He had, in fact, enough to do in producing his works; and, practically, had obtained for them all he could get when he had once been paid by the theatre. What he sold to the manager was the right of representation for two years, after which he had no right of any kind in his works. Anyone might play them, anyone might engrave them. One year after the production of the new opera, the composer had the right to take back the original score from the theatre; and this Rossini sometimes neglected to do, or, in the case of the “Barber,” the two missing pieces would not have been lost. From the publishers who engraved his works, and made large sums of money by selling them, he never, as long as he remained in Italy, received a farthing.—“Life of Rossini,” by Sutherland Edwards.



## PETITIONS FOR AND AGAINST THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

THE right to petition Parliament is, no doubt, among the most precious political privileges of a Briton; but the exercise of that right cannot always be supposed to afford an infallible clue to the real opinions or wishes of the nation. When a thing is sure to be done, few people care to undertake the labour of asking that it should be done; when a measure threatens, or seems to threaten, the special privileges of any class, sect, or interest, the opposing petitions may be usually expected to outnumber those in favour. The result of the general election conclusively showed that Mr. Gladstone would succeed in disestablishing the Irish Church; and those who fully recognised the benefit which the measure would confer on Ireland have not, for the most part, thought it necessary to slay the slain by employing their ancient Parliamentary privilege. Against the disestablishment of the Irish Church as many as 1006 petitions, bearing 177,879 signatures, had been presented at the date of the last report; but, when we consider that the petitions in favour bore 137,604 signatures, it is reasonable to infer that, judged by the test of the extent to which the right of petition has been exercised on either side, the intelligent opinion of Ireland is decidedly in favour of Mr. Gladstone's bill. With comparatively few exceptions, the petitions for the bill come from the larger Irish towns and communities; and the average number of signatures affixed to each is 410. On the other hand, the petitions against the bill emanate to a very great extent from the infinitesimally small parishes of Ireland—twenty or thirty in one volley presented from a single county; and it is apparent that they owe their origin, not to any natural movement of the public mind, but to the manoeuvring of parties interested. This most explicable industry has led to the dispatch of no fewer than 1000 petitions; but the average number of signatures to each is only 187, and thus every petition for disestablishment is numerically worth precisely three petitions against. If we say that every third adverse petition reaches the three figures, that is a liberal statement of the case; while there are many such entries as the following:—"Protestants of all denominations residing in the parish of Ballybrood, in the county of Limerick, 6;" ditto, "Loughguile, in the county of Antrim, 3;" "Inhabitants of Ballymacwilliam, King's County, 4;" "Junismackscaine, in the county of Fermanagh, 2;" "Desertogny, in the county of Londonderry, 5;" "Ferns and Kilbride, in the county of Wexford, 3;" "Castlemartyr, in the county of Cork, 4;" and so on. Now and then, an interested individual presents "a bit sma' siffication o' his ain;" witness the petitions of "H. D. Stanistreet, organist, Tuam, 1;" "M. J. O. Callaghan, organist, Ross, 1;" "W. Ranslow, organist and choir-master of St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny, 1;" each poor organist's plaint counting for one in the list of the thousand petitions. Those who pray against the bill have not a few allies out of Ireland; for instance, the "Rural Dean and Clergy of the Rural Deanery of Holsworthy, in the county of Devon, 12;" "D. Butler, M.A., Rector of Great Chart, Kent, and others, 5;" "Inhabitants of Abbotsbury, in the county of Dorset, 2;" "Inhabitants of Hanwell, in the county of Oxford, 8;" "Inhabitants of Shelf, in the parish of Halifax, in the county of York, 4;" and many more petitions from England and Wales which, like their Irish congeners, when they escape the trammels of the units, rarely soar beyond those of the tens. It is worth while to remark the broad difference in the origin, character, and value of the petitions on each side; for thus we have another proof—if more evidence were now needed—that the nation, as distinguished from the persons whose interests are supposed to be injured by the bill, is broadly and confidently on the side of justice.—*Telegraph*.

COLONEL WHITEHEAD PEARD, of Trentham, Cornwall, Garibaldi's well-known "Englishman," is the present High Sheriff of Cornwall. He went specially to Exeter, during Easter week last, to help at the life-boat bazaar and fête, and not only made extensive purchases, but gallantly assisted the ladies who presided at the stalls to sell, day after day, their articles, thus showing how thoroughly he appreciates the life-boat services performed every winter on the coasts of Devon and Cornwall.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR has issued directions to Colonel Dixon, R.A., to prepare by hand 200 stand of arms, on the Martini-Henry principle, at Enfield; and has further ordered that machinery already at the factory shall be adapted for the turning out before the end of the year of 800 additional rifles. These will then be distributed among various troops, stationed widely apart, for the purpose of being thoroughly tested in every climate, and commanding officers will be required to send in carefully drawn up reports of the shooting and other qualities of the rifle.

DEATH OF LORD FAIRFAX.—The *Baltimore Sun* of April 5 says:—"Charles Snowden Fairfax, a descendant of the last Lord Fairfax, and himself entitled to the title as the tenth lord, died at Barnum's City Hotel, in this city, yesterday morning, aged forty years. The deceased was born at Vaudeuse, Fairfax county, Virginia, March 26, 1829, but for some years has resided in California, having served as Speaker of the House of Representatives of that State in 1854, and subsequently for five years was clerk of the Supreme Court of the same State. He was chairman of the California delegation to the Democratic National Convention which assembled in New York last July. Mr. Fairfax was thoroughly identified with the State of his adoption, and was well known and respected on the Pacific coast. The deceased was collaterally related to Thomas, the sixth Baron Fairfax, who, having relinquished his English estates to his brother Robert, came over to America and settled on a plantation of more than a million of acres in Virginia, which he inherited from his mother, Catherine Culpepper. Thomas Fairfax was the first person who employed George Washington as a surveyor. Robert Fairfax died in 1793, when the immense estate descended to the Rev. Bryan Fairfax, a second cousin, who became eighth Baron. Charles Snowden Fairfax, the subject of this notice, was the great-grandson of the Rev. Bryan Fairfax, and succeeded to the title of Lord Fairfax in 1846—a title, however, which he never claimed, preferring to die, as he had lived, an American citizen." According to "Debreit," the pedigree descends to his brother John, who resides in Maryland.

AN INDIAN DUEL.—An American paper gives an account of a strange duel between two Indians, which took place near a sawmill situated on Ten-mile Creek, six miles from Helena. A few Indians were in a cabin occupied by some of the employees of the mill, when one of them displayed his revolver, at the same time expatiating on its merits and his own extraordinary skill in its use. This he carried to such an extent that another brave of the party denounced him as a braggart, at the same time saying he could put him to shame at his own game. Whereupon native No. 1 proposed a test of skill, giving his opponent the advantage of a rifle, his favourite weapon. This was at once acceded to, and immediate preparations were made for a duel in their own peculiar style. By this time about twenty warriors had collected, and all repaired a short way from the cabin, where they marked off about forty feet—the distance that was to separate the hostile savages. During these preparations the doomed warriors looked upon each other with the most stolid indifference, and the crowd waited for the denouement in silent wonder. When all was made ready the opponents took their position with their heels on the mark—back to back—one with his revolver, and the other with his rifle. One of the natives had been selected to act as second for both. He took his position a little aside from the line of fire; waved a spear, decorated with paint and feathers, two or three times above his head; gave the terrible war-whoop, and, on the instant, the duellists wheeled and fired. Both fell—one shot through the brain, the other pierced to the heart.

TRADE DISPUTES.—The number of spinners, piecers, and creelers now on the books of the Operative Spinners' and Miners' Association is about 1100, and of weavers on the books of their union from 4000 to 5000. These are all now, or will be this week, receiving what is called "strike" pay. The employers who are running their mills wholly or partially are doing so at a reduction of 5 or 10 per cent, and all of them have as many hands as they want or are likely to want for a considerable time. The establishments now stopped, with the exception of ten or twelve that were closed long previous to the strike, from badness of trade or other causes wholly unconnected with the strike, will, from all we can learn, remain closed until there be a revival of trade. An announcement made in the Manchester papers that the spinners and manufacturers of Blackburn and East Lancashire had resolved to issue notices of a reduction of 5 per cent in the wages of their operatives fell like a thunderbolt on the strike hands in Preston. The executive committees seem bewildered, and in answer to the question "What is to be done now?" say they "cannot tell." Some of them profess confidence that the operatives of Blackburn and East Lancashire will strike, rather than permit their standard list to be broken into by the reduction announced. But whether they strike or not the supplies to Preston must fail. If they strike, they will want support themselves; and if they do not, they cannot consistently support those who now profess to be resisting a reduction to which they have submitted themselves. An attempt is to be made to settle the dispute in the Manchester building trade by arbitration, and Mr. Rupert Kettle has consented to endeavour to bring about an arrangement. All agitation on either side is to cease pending the inquiry.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY, including the children of the Prince of Wales and Prince Christian, left Windsor on Tuesday for Osborne. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES returned to Constantinople last Saturday morning from their trip to the Crimea; and left the same evening to visit Athens, where they arrived on Tuesday.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON is said to have decided that a colossal bronze group shall be placed on the summit of the triumphal arch at the top of the Champs Elysees, as intended by Napoleon I.

THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH will, it is believed, start on her long-announced journey to the East in October next, and time her visit so as to be present at the opening of the Suez Canal.

PRINCE NAPOLEON left Marseilles on Tuesday, in his yacht, for a cruise in the Mediterranean.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY is announced to take the chair at the annual meeting of the Curates' Augmentation Fund, on June 2, at Willis's Rooms.

MR. DISRAELI has been confined to his room for some days by a severe attack of gout.

THE EARL OF MARCH, eldest son of the Duke of Richmond, was on Saturday elected for West Sussex, in place of the Hon. H. Wyndham, who has succeeded, by the death of his father, Lord Leconfield, to the Peerage.

COLONEL STUART, M.P. for Cardiff, is so seriously indisposed that on Sunday prayers were offered up in several churches and chapels for his recovery.

PRESIDENT GRANT has appointed Mr. Basset, a negro, to be United States Minister to Hayti, and the Senate has confirmed the appointment.

SIR M. SHAW STUART has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Renfrewshire, vice Lord Glasgow, deceased.

LORD JUSTICE GENERAL INGLIS was on Wednesday installed as Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh, in the presence of a numerous and distinguished assemblage.

LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY is seriously ill, and his condition causes much anxiety to his family.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH, after a short absence from the Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, has returned, and is now busily engaged on his work so long announced, "A Short History of England down to the Reformation."

MR. WHEELHOUSE AND SIR HERBERT CROFT have prepared a bill to exempt public hospitals, infirmaries, and dispensaries from liability to rating.

THE WELL-KNOWN BUST OF DR. ISAAC WATTS in the south aisle of Westminster Abbey has been removed in order to undergo the process of cleaning and embellishment.

THE BELLINI THEATRE, at Naples, was burnt to the ground on Saturday night.

A ROYAL COMMISSION has been appointed to inquire into the operation of the sanitary laws in the towns, villages, and rural districts of Great Britain and Ireland.

NEITHER LORD STANLEY NOR SIR ROUNDELL PALMER voted, on Monday night, in the division on the disestablishment clause of the Irish Church Bill. Lord Stanley's absence was occasioned by his being obliged to attend as chairman of quarter sessions at Kirkcaldy on that day.

HER MAJESTY'S SCREW TROOP-SHIP CROCODILE, Captain George W. Watson, sailed from Portsmouth, on Tuesday, for Canada, with the first portion of the discharged workmen from Government establishments who have accepted the Admiralty offer of a free passage for themselves out to Canada.

MR. MACKONICHIE, of St. Alban's, Holborn, who is in Yorkshire, was asked to preach in a Bradford church. The Bishop of Ripon has, however, inhibited him from officiating in his diocese.

THE WEDGWOOD MEMORIAL INSTITUTE at Burslem was opened, on Wednesday, by Earl De Grey and Ripon, who, as Lord President of the Council, received an address at the Townhall. His Lordship subsequently presided at a luncheon, which was attended by the High Sheriff of the county and the local members of Parliament.

THE METROPOLITAN BALLOT SOCIETY held a meeting at Arundel Hall on Wednesday night, under the presidency of Sir Henry L. Bulwer, M.P. Professor Rogers, Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., Mr. John Morley, and Mr. Buchanan delivered addresses in support of the adoption of the ballot at Parliamentary elections. A petition to the House of Commons was ultimately agreed to.

A BEERHOUSE-KEEPER, carrying on business in one of the villages of Suffolk, having been fined by the local magistrates for permitting playing at skittles for beer, appealed to the Court of Queen's Bench. The Chief Justice and Justices Mellor, Lush, and Hayes, on Wednesday, held that playing at skittles for beer was gaming within the meaning of the statute, and affirmed the conviction.

TWO CONVICTS, named Jenkins and Milton, one under sentence of eight and the other ten years' penal servitude, made an extraordinary escape from Dundee prison on Sunday morning. They lifted the slabs of the cell floor and got over a wall, and so escaped. Marks of blood were traced for a mile from the prison, but the convicts got clear off.

ANOTHER DEATH arising out of the recent accident at Highbrooks colliery, near Wigan, is reported, making the number of the victims thirty-six. The fund for the relief of those who were dependent upon the victims amounts to about £4800.

MR. JOHN ORRELL LEVER, formerly M.P. for Galway, who has been in the Bankruptcy Court since October, 1866, received his order of discharge on Saturday. The amount in the hands of the assignees available for dividend is about £1300.

JAMES MANNA, who has been passing himself off as "Prince Manna," son of the King of Gallinas, was brought up at Marlborough-street on Monday for final examination, and was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

BROTHER IGNATIUS has been holding a series of services during the past week at his monastery at Norwich, assisted by two monks of the English order of St. Benedict. The services have been of the usual ultra-ritualistic character. The general public have been admitted to witness them on payment of 1s. each.

THE GOVERNOR OF THE BAHAMAS reports that "The diminution in the number and valuation of wrecks has deprived numbers of their former sources of employment and profit." Will no one be kind enough to throw away a ship on the Bahamas for the benefit of trade?

A MAN, respectfully dressed, and believed to be a foreign sailor, was found dead, with his skull terribly fractured, on the railway between Cork and Malrow, the other morning. The circumstances give rise to a suspicion that he has been robbed and murdered while travelling over the line.

THE MASTER AND FELLOWS OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, have decided to intrust to Mr. Woolner the execution of the monument to Dr. Whewell, which is to be placed in the ante-chapel of the college. The statue of the late master will stand next to that of Lord Macaulay, some little distance to the right of Roubilliac's fine statue of Newton.

MILLE NILSSON tells her friends that there is no foundation for the stories of her being about to be married to the Duke de Massa, the Marquis de Scepoux, a Russian Prince, or anybody else. She has before her a long list of professional engagements in England, America, and elsewhere, and contemplates the fulfilment of all of them.

MR. ANDREW JOHNSON, ex-President of the United States, has completely recovered from his recent serious illness, and has been making speeches in Tennessee. In one of these he announced that he should, as a private citizen, continue the warfare he had begun against usurpation, and that he was bent, not broken, by cares of State.

A FRIGHTFUL BOILER EXPLOSION occurred on Monday afternoon at the Barking gasworks. A barge was being unladen at the back of the gasworks by the aid of a "coffee-pot" steam-engine turning a crank, when the boiler of the engine exploded with a noise like a heavy piece of artillery. Five men were killed, and several were seriously injured.

THE TOWN OF LEYDEN invites the sculptors of all countries to send in models for a statue of Boerhaave in the costume of a professor of Leyden University. The models are to be 3 ft. 3 in. (a metre) in height, including the statue and the pedestal. The author of the selected model will have to execute a plaster copy of his design, from three to four metres in height without the pedestal. The statue will be in bronze. Sept. 1, 1869, is the latest day for receiving models; and M. Boogaard, Professor to the University of Leyden, will furnish further information.

A PARLIAMENTARY RETURN, moved for by Mr. Hanbury-Tracy, shows that, by the employment of 166 of the Royal Marines on the works at Portsmouth, Woolwich, Chatham, and Plymouth, a saving of £2793 13s. 5d. was effected in the year 1867-8. Calculated by the estimated value of the work done according to contract schedules, the saving amounts to 30½ per cent.

A CASHIER of a great insurance company in Paris has been arrested for embezzlement. His defalcations are said to amount to 1,400,000. Part of this money he lost by Bourse speculations; but it is alleged that he lent 700,000 to a political journal. The public is greatly interested in the whole truth, whatever it may be.

TWO VERY SERIOUS COTTON-MILL FIRES took place on Saturday night last. At Liversay, near Blackburn, Mr. Swain's mill, containing 100 spindles, a building six stories high, was utterly destroyed, the damage being estimated at £10,000. The other fire was at Royton, near Oldham, and the damage is there calculated to be nearer £15,000 than £10,000. In the former case, owing to the depression of trade, the mill had not been at work lately. Every effort in both cases was made by the bystanders in aiding the firemen, and it is hoped that the fires were accidental.

## RECEPTION AT THE TUILERIES AFTER MASS.

OUR Engraving represents what has now become a custom in Paris during the Imperial residence at the Tuileries. Every Sunday, on leaving the chapel of the palace after mass, the Emperor permits those who have been admitted for the privilege to present themselves to him either for the purpose of expressing their loyalty or of preferring petitions. This is a return to the old custom of making the observance of public worship an opportunity for recognising those who are not the attendants at earthly courts; and many who would have long to wait before they could gain access to the throne have thus an opportunity of making known their wants, or the wants of those in whom they are interested, by a direct appeal to the Sovereign. Our readers will not expect us to remark upon this custom, which should of course be unnecessary under a free Constitutional Government.

## THE NEW VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, PARIS.

AT the corner of the Boulevard des Capucines and the Rue de la Chaussée d'Antin, at the extreme point where the once famous Boulevard des Italiens terminates, there has lately been completed a new Vaudeville Theatre, which is a worthy pendant to the Hanover Pavilion, a building always cited as an example of the elegant style of Marshal Richelieu and the eighteenth century. On crossing the short space which leads from the street to the interior of the building, the visitor is immediately struck by the advantages derived from the circular form of the vestibule in giving easy access to the theatre. The same form is, in fact, preserved in every part of the establishment. The foyer, where the audience come out between the acts, is also circular, and is decorated in admirable taste; while in the theatre itself, which accommodates 900 people, the same plan is carried out; and so well have the projectors considered the convenience of the public that it is quite possible to leave a seat or return to it without treading on the toes, crushing the hats, or bruising the knees of the unhappy sufferers before whom you have to pass. There are three tiers of boxes and balconies above the dress-circle; and the originality of the new building consists not only in the shape and in the disposition of the seats, but also in the plan of lighting the theatre by nine separate lustres grouped so as to form a system of light, with the lustres so arranged as to increase the illuminating power while giving remarkable softness to the flame. The machinery of the stage, too, is remarkable, being entirely constructed of iron, and so managed that the moving scenes where fairies are balanced and objects change upon the stage, as well as the ordinary shifting of the scenery and the rise and fall of the curtain, are all connected with mechanical contrivances, with gas as the fuel of the engine employed. The dressing-rooms are fitted with iron doors, and are situated on the four stories behind the stage, which is of most symmetrical proportions, though great size is not required for the pieces usually performed at the theatre.

THE RIVAL CONJURORS.—Professor Bob—"There is no deception—the bag is empty. Hey, presto, pass! (Produces the egg) Surplus!" Professor Ben—"Why, we could ha done that— (Pauses.) If we'd on'y thought on it."—*Punch*.

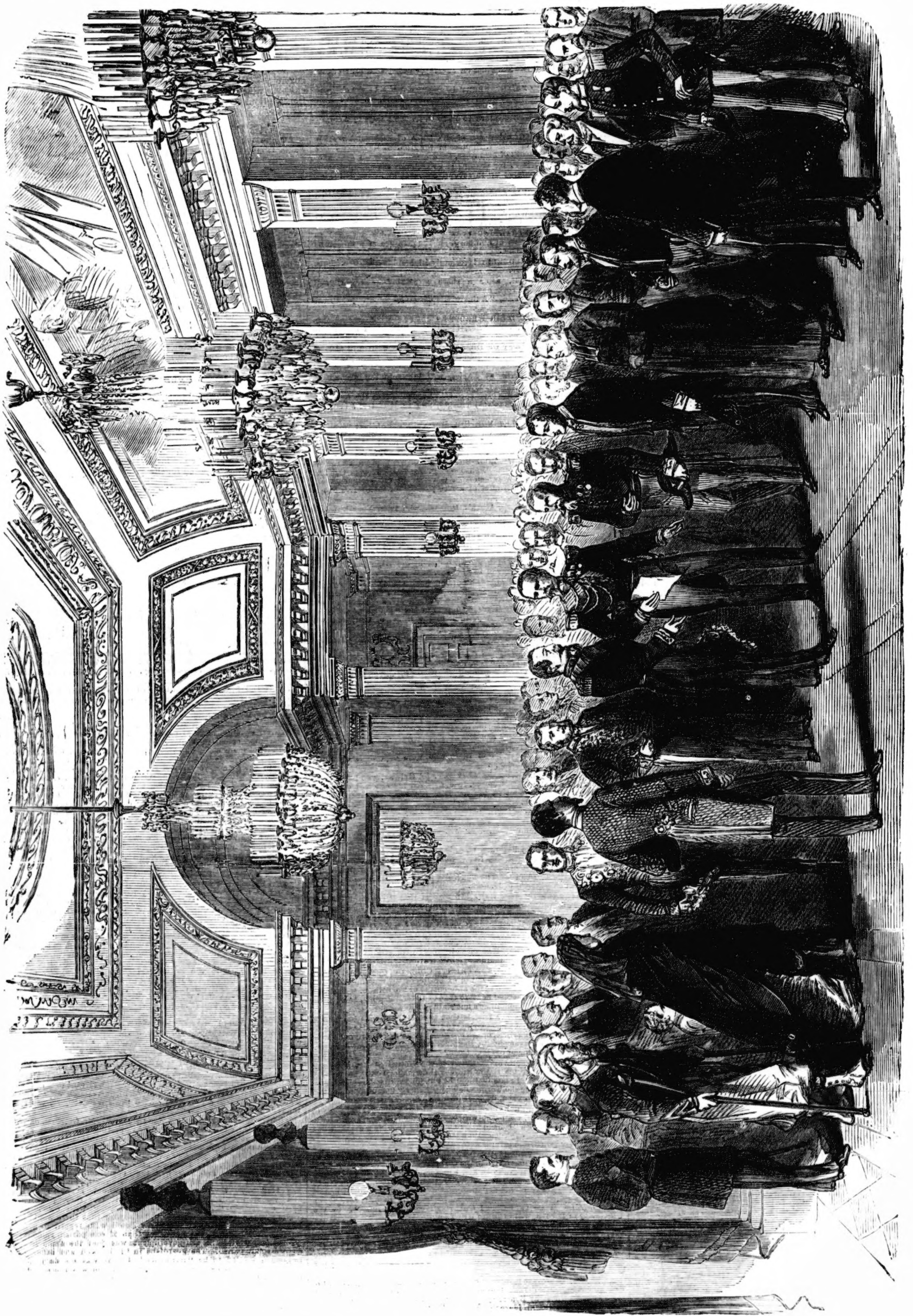
THE LATE COUNTESS OF MORNINGTON.—The story of Helen, Countess of Mornington, who died last week, is sad and pitiful. She was the daughter of Colonel Patterson, and granddaughter of a Scottish gentleman of large property in Renfrewshire. Her first husband was Captain Bligh, of the Coldstream Guards. Early left a widow, in 1828, when little more than thirty years of age, she married the Hon. William Pole-Tynney-Long-Wellesley, then the only son of Lord Maryborough, who had already gained the reputation of having broken one wife's heart, and squandered the great part of the fine property which had come to him by marriage from the Tynneys and the Longs. In course of time Mr. Long-Wellesley became Earl of Mornington, and head of the house of Wellesley; and when, some ten years ago, that nobleman died, a pensioner on the charity of his relatives, in an obscure lodging-house near Marylebone-lane, his poor wife had once, if not more than once, appeared at a metropolitan police-court as a suppliant for public charity. Of late years nothing had been heard of her till the notification of her death the other day. She had attained her seventy-fifth year.

ANTIDOTE FOR PHOSPHORUS POISON.—M. Personne, an eminent toxicologist, announces the discovery of an antidote for poisoning by phosphorus. It is well known that workpeople engaged in the manufacture of matches are subject to many diseases caused by inhalation of phosphoric fumes, which frequently result in caries of the jaw-bone. Moreover, criminal cases of poisoning by phosphorus have increased to an alarming extent in France, arsenic being apparently quite superseded by this more easily obtainable poison. Although medical men had long been engaged in searching for a special antidote, they had hitherto failed in their endeavours, and emetics were alone resorted to, often without success. M. Personne believes that in the essence of turpentine he has at length found the long-sought-for antidote. In support of his theory he publishes the following results of his experiments:—"To five dogs he administered doses of phosphorus varying from one to three grammes; to five others the same doses, followed in the course of an hour by ten grammes of essence of turpentine; and finally to five more the same doses of poison, immediately succeeded by the antidote. The first five all died; of the second series all recovered but one; while the five last appeared not to suffer the slightest inconvenience."

A FREE BREAKFAST TABLE.—In pursuance of an announcement headed as above, a public meeting was held in the Vestry Hall, King's-road, St. Pancras, last Saturday night, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament in favour of further reductions of expenditure, in order to secure the repeal of taxes affecting trade, industry, and employment. Mr. Serjeant Simon, M.P., was in the chair. He said the excise and customs duties amounted to £12,000,000, making more than two thirds of the national revenue levied on the industry of the people. Indirect taxation rested upon a wrong basis, and was a cheat upon the masses, and he insisted that it would be much better for the consumer to pay his taxes in one lump sum than by the present system of giving them in dribbles to the tradesmen. Dr. Walter Smith proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting, while expressing its satisfaction that a saving of £2,261,000 has been effected in the Estimates for the present year, desires to urge upon Parliament the necessity of a more complete and thorough revision of the national expenditure in every department, in order to secure further reductions therein; that the results of previous relaxations of the tariff simply warrant further progress in the liberation of commerce from fiscal imposts; and that the repeal of the duties upon tea, coffee, and sugar would relieve the ratepayers from a large portion of their burdens, would promote the extension of trade, manufactures, and employment, and would benefit every section of the community." Mr. Noble, in seconding the resolution, said that the strength of the landlord element in the House of Commons was a great injury to the working man, for, while the land contributed one third of the national revenue 160 years ago, only the sixty-second part of the revenue was obtained from that source at present. The resolution was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Daniel Grant (one of the candidates for Marylebone at the last election), Mr. Mason Jones, and other gentlemen addressed the meeting, and a petition embodying the spirit of the resolution was adopted.

MR. GOSCHEN ON POOR-LAW MANAGEMENT.—Mr. Goschen, on Wednesday, expressed some decided opinions respecting the present system of parochial administration. A deputation of guardians from Clerkenwell waited upon him to ask that they should not be included in the projected union, for poor-law purposes, of Holborn, Clerkenwell, and St. Luke's (Old-street). In reply, Mr. Goschen said that he wanted to introduce economic changes, and this was the opposition he met with. A large school had been erected at Hanwell, and the expenses had been large because the guardians would keep to themselves and would not send their children there, they preferring to have a separate establishment to co-operating with other parishes. There was not a particle of reason for saying that there would be more power in the hands of the Poor-Law Board with regard to a board of guardians composed of three parishes than if one parish ruled a parish. The principle of local self-government was just the same in a large as in a small parish. The guardians in Clerkenwell and other parishes in London wanted to be "left alone." But it was his duty to look at the danger of leaving them alone, for pauperism was increasing at the rate of 7-45 per cent in three years. He would not, he continued, undertake the responsibility of leaving the guardians alone after seeing this state of things; but he should, while he remained in that department, use his best endeavours to keep down the expenditure and keep down the poor rates. It was altogether wrong to say that the Poor-Law Board was striking at local self-government. He found that guardians did not mind spending a few thousands more on this or that purpose, if they could keep to themselves. They would sacrifice more expenditure on schools, or a workhouse, or an infirmary, for the principle of being "left alone"—left, that was to say, as a complete district. Now, of all views, economy, combined with efficiency, should be foremost; and this was the view of the Poor-Law Board. Other questions of reform would arise, and parishes must be prepared to give up something of their traditional systems if desirable reforms were to be carried out for the general good.

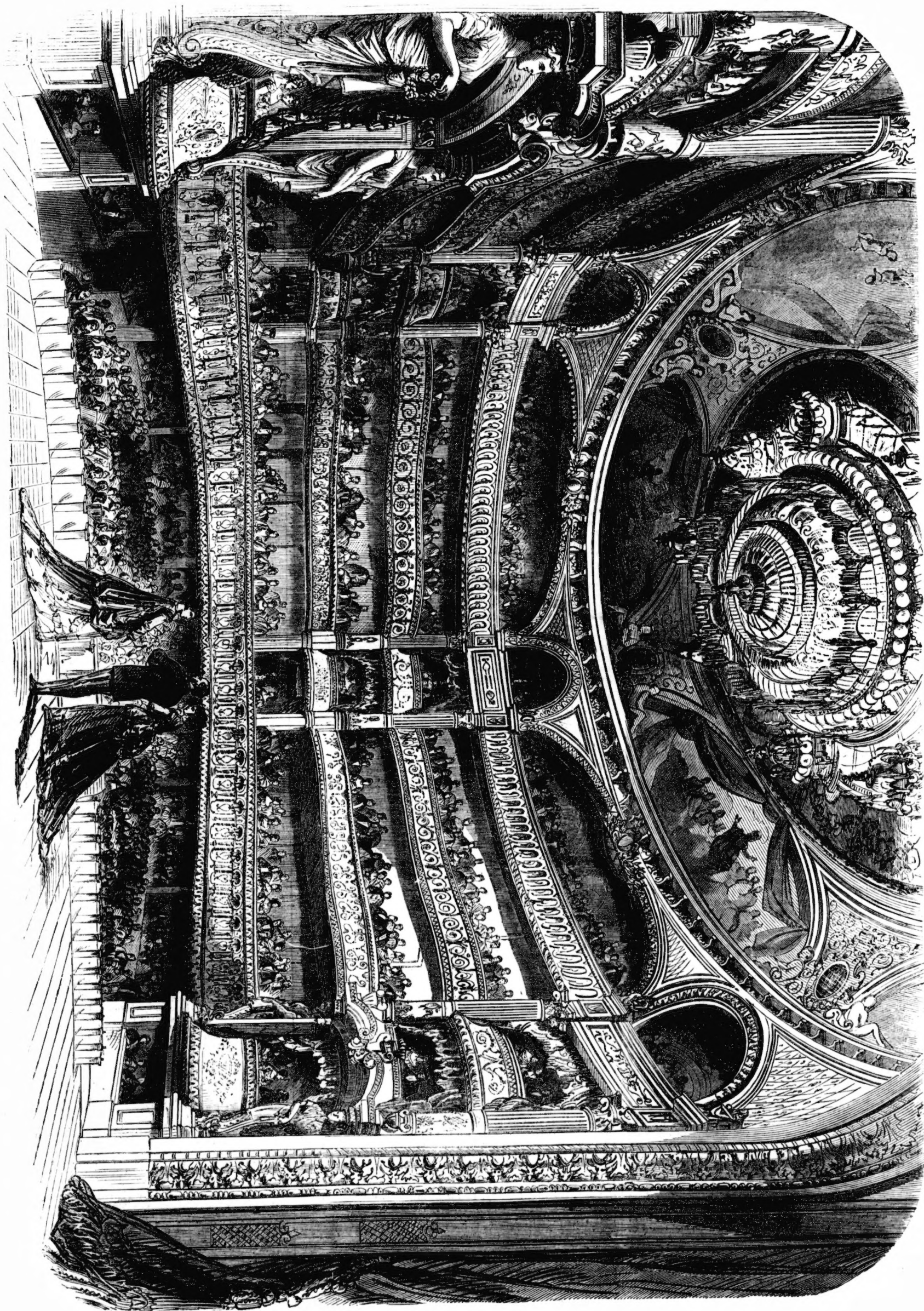




SUNDAY AFTERNOON RECEPTION BY THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON AT THE TUILERIES.



INTERIOR OF THE NEW VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, PARIS.





## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 352.

AYTOUN AND NEWDEGATE.

On Thursday, the 15th, the battle on the Irish Church Bill was renewed, and at an early hour the forces on both sides mustered in great strength. The question to be decided was whether the House should go into Committee, and at the proper time Mr. Speaker put the question "That I do now leave the chair." Here Mr. Aytoun interposed. Mr. Aytoun is the member for Kirkcaldy, in Scotland. He is a Liberal, and a man of good abilities; but he has crotchets, and is not so loyal to his party as he should be. His particular crotchet on this question was that the corporation of Maynooth College be dissolved, and no money be given to the trustees except by way of compensation to the professors, &c. Mr. Aytoun rose to move that the Committee be instructed to carry out this notion, and he meant to treat the House to a long speech. But no sooner had he risen than Mr. Speaker told the honourable member that he could not make this motion. "The Committee will have power to do what you want, and you cannot instruct the Committee to do what it has power to do without instruction." Such was the tenor of Mr. Speaker's decision; and of course Mr. Aytoun had to sit down. This obstacle out of the way, Mr. Newdegate rose to move "That the House do resolve itself into the said Committee this day six months"—that is, never, as the House won't be in Session six months hence. Had Mr. Newdegate any hope of carrying this amendment? Not a ray of hope. Then why did he move it? Some say merely to delay the measure—destroy by delay what he could not hope to defeat in open fight. But this was not Mr. Newdegate's motive. He is a very honourable man, and not at all given to such tactics. The simple truth is that Mr. Newdegate had got up, at considerable cost of time and labour, a long and elaborate speech, which he intended to deliver on the second reading of the bill, but could get no opportunity. He was therefore obliged to waste all the time and labour, or deliver the speech on this occasion. And he did deliver it; and what a speech it was! It was a vast speech, very solemn, denunciatory, minatory, prophetic; like the prophet's rôle, full of lamentation, mourning, and woe. As a mere speaker, Mr. Newdegate excels most men in the House. He has a capital voice, clear, musical, and flexible; and the skill with which he can play upon this miraculous organ is really surprising. His action, too, though sometimes overdone, is very dramatic. Mr. Newdegate was in full feather that night. It was evident that he meant to go in for a very grand effort; but, unhappily, he produced no effect. The House listened to him, on the whole, with admirable patience, for an hour and a quarter; but even his own party were not much moved; they appeared to be, as it seemed to us, rather bored; whilst the unbelieving fellows opposite received his Cassandra-like warnings. If, like Priam's daughter, he has received the gift of prophecy, it is with him as it was with her: it is ordained that nobody shall believe his prophecies.

KNOX, AND AYTOUN AGAIN.

Our old friend Major Stuart Knox seconded the amendment, in a speech—happily short—full of sound and fury, signifying nothing, like all his speeches on Church matters. His mother was a Stuart, descended, it is said, from the Royal line, and daughter of Dr. Stuart, sometime Archbishop of Armagh. No wonder, then, that he is the Tory Orangeman we know him to be. His wife, though, ought to have tempered him down somewhat, for she is the daughter of Mr. Bonfroy Hooper, who used to fight the Tories in Huntingdonshire so gallantly thirty years ago. Mr. Aytoun, though baulked in the matter of his amendment, determined to deliver his speech; and as soon as the gallant Major had fired off his noisy but innocuous cracker, the hon. member for Kirkcaldy rose again. It was rumoured, immediately after the general election, that, though Scotland had pronounced with great emphasis against the Irish Church, she would quite as emphatically pronounce against the proposition to give some of the Church property to Maynooth. "Yes, Sir," said a Conservative member to us, "on that question we shall have the Scotch members with us to a man." But at present only one man in the ranks of Scotch Liberals has lifted up his voice—to wit, Mr. Aytoun. "Among the faithless, faithful only he;" and him nobody seemed to care to hear—at least, on his own side of the House—not even his "brither Scots." On the contrary, indignant that a member of their own party should play the game of their enemies by prolonging the discussion, and thus keep the Speaker in the chair, the Liberals determined that he should not be heard. At first there was not a storm, but only a low monotonous murmuring of "Vide, vide, vide!"—a sort of songing which precedes the storm; but it was quite loud enough to prevent the speech from coming to our ears, except in broken and disconnected sentences. But this moderation did not last long. Gradually the noise got louder, and at last it grew into a hurricane, the like of which we have rarely heard. Mr. Aytoun struggled gallantly. He, as we could see, but not hear, vociferated at the top of his voice, and gesticulated frantically; but he might have "spared his breath to cool his porridge," for not a word of what he said could penetrate a yard into the tempest around him. What a ridiculous sight it is, that of a man standing up in a crowd frantically nodding his head and throwing his arms about when you cannot hear a word that he utters! We often wonder why a member should ever attempt to address a House under such conditions. Surely, if he could see himself as others see him, if he could project himself from himself and look at himself, one glance would make him drop down disgusted into his seat.

STRANGE SCENE.

We have in the House a gentleman named Burrell—Sir Percy Burrell. He is the son of old Sir Charles Burrell, long the father of the House, now dead. Sir Percy represents Shoreham, as his father did before him. Father and son have sat for Shoreham undisturbed for sixty-three years. The seat for Shoreham is as much the property of the Burrells as their estate. The Reform Act of 1832 did not disturb them, and in 1868 Sir Percy was returned without opposition. Sir Percy, as his father was, is a Conservative. He is a silent man, and, apparently, solitary. He rarely speaks in the House, and never made a long speech anywhere. He sits in his place, not far from the Speaker's chair; listens, to all appearance, apathetically, as long as he can; and when he has had enough of it, he quietly rises and goes straight away, without stopping to gossip or even speak to anybody on his route. But, though he is so silent generally, and apparently so apathetic, there is even in him a mine of passion, which now and then—perhaps twice in a Session—explodes. On that Thursday night it went off quite unexpectedly. The hon. Baronet was sitting in his place as usual, when suddenly, whilst the storm which we have described was at its height, he rose and somewhat angrily, and rather impudently, called upon the Speaker to keep order. Mr. Speaker, of course, did not respond to the call; perhaps it was not heard. We think it likely that this was so. The air was full of noises. Sir Percy has but a weak voice. He was out of the range of the Speaker's eye. Between him, indeed, and the Speaker's ears there was, first, an inch oak plank forming the side of the recessed chair, and the thick lapet of the official wig. It is most likely, then, that Mr. Speaker did not hear the call. But, if he had heard it, Sir Percy, he would not have noticed it. Mr. Speaker is very slow to interfere to stop such rows. They are quite out of order, of course; but he knows, as all who attend the House know, that they are sometimes necessary.

LYNCH LAW.

And we will tell our readers why. The House of Commons has an admirable code of rules to govern its proceedings. But there is one law which it has not. It has no law to enable the Speaker or the House to put down impudent, tiresome, boring speakers, nor to prevent the discreditable practice of talking against time. When a member once gets possession of the House he can keep it as long as he likes, or as long as he is able. Nobody can legally stop him. He may go on talking all night and all the next day if

he likes. The members may go, every man of them, and leave nobody behind but the Speaker and the officials, and legally Mr. Speaker cannot stop him. We had a man in the House once who did actually talk for five hours and a half at a stretch. The hero of this feat was Vincent Scully. He undertook, one Wednesday morning, to talk a bill out, and he did it. Well, in newly-formed countries, before law and law courts can be got to work, it is the custom to adopt Lynch law, and this is the House of Commons Lynch law. When a member whom the House does not wish to hear, because it wants to divide and go home or to dinner, perseveres in speaking, the House Lynch him in the way which we have so often described. "But why not have a law?" Because no law could be framed so as to work well. But into that matter we cannot enter now; and this Lynch law, though confessedly a rough-and-ready expedient, on the whole does its work reasonably well. Sir Percy, having shot his bolt, dropped down into his normal silence, vexed, no doubt, that his call was not answered; but, not seeing any other method of effecting his object, a Captain Archdall, an Irish member, who sat near and was also hot and evanescent, suddenly hit upon what he thought an effective expedient, and, jumping up, exclaimed "Mr. Speaker, I move that the debate be adjourned." But neither did the Speaker notice him—probably did not hear him, for still the tempest was raging, and still Mr. Aytoun was raving; or it might have been that Mr. Speaker turned a deaf ear, as we say, because the motion was entirely out of order. Seeing that Mr. Speaker did not notice the motion, Sir Percy again incontinently rushed to the front and asked Mr. Speaker, in tones which could not but be heard, whether he was aware that the adjournment had been moved. Now, then, it was time for Mr. Speaker to rise to give judgment, and—like Jupiter, the storm-queller—to restore order. "The hon. member for Kirkcaldy," he said, "is in possession of the House, and the hon. member for Fermanagh (Captain Archdall) cannot make a motion." And then he expressed a hope "that at this early hour of the evening the House would hear the hon. member for Kirkcaldy." And then suddenly there was calm, and Mr. Aytoun finished his speech; and soon afterwards the members, seeing that there was no hope of a division before dinner, went away and dined.

LIBERAL TACTICS.

For a time, during the dinner-hour, as usual, there came over the House a halcyon calm. But when the members had dined and wine, and returned, the atmosphere again got electric and stormy. And once, when a cluster of members at the bar got too obstreperous, Mr. Speaker called out "The Sergeant-at-Arms will keep order at the bar." Whereupon Lord Charles Russell left his seat, and, by remonstrance, cleared the space. This was effective for a time, but only for a time. Several papers have said that Mr. Speaker's order was unusual. It is unusual now; but the late Speaker frequently adopted this course. And now we will tell our readers how it came to pass that the House was so excited during this night. There were some curious tactics in operation, unnoticed by strangers. The Liberals are anxious and even earnest to pass that bill. The Conservatives, as they cannot defeat the bill by numbers, wish to prolong the discussions and thus endanger it by delay. The Liberals discerned this, and determined, not at any formal meeting but with wonderful unanimity, not to speak, knowing that whatever talking power the gentlemen opposite might have it could not be exhausted. The plan was carried out with unprecedented success. Only two Liberals spoke during all that long night—to wit, Mr. Whalley and a certain Mr. Dease, an Irish member—except the leader, of course. It can easily be conceived that this silence on the Government side "fired" the Conservatives not a little. Every possible attempt was made by taunts and threats to draw out their Liberal opponents, but with no effect. The Liberals saw their advantage, and were very merry over it, meeting these taunts and threats with peels of laughter, and what we must call "chaff." And so the night passed—one of the strangest nights we have ever known. The plan of the Liberals succeeded wonderfully: it secured a division that night. If the Liberals had come out of their intrenchment of silence into the open, there would certainly have been two, and perhaps three, nights' debate. There were in the House that night when the division took place 588 members. It was raining heavily outside, and when the doors were opened the struggle in the doorway was for a minute alarming, and the race down to Palace-yard amusing enough to the strangers in the lobby. Of course there was not half cabs enough at first, though the yard was quite full of them. But the news spread quickly, and every cabman within a mile rushed to the scene at racing speed, and eventually but few members had to walk in the rain.

DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE IRISH CHURCH.

On Thursday night the House got into Committee; but too late to do anything. On Friday night it went into Committee, and, according to rule, without previous debate, the first duty of the Committee was to disestablish the Church, and that in about three hours was done—that is, as far as the Committee could do it. The stress of the fight lay upon six members, to wit—Disraeli, who opened it; Sir R. Collier, Attorney-General; Dr. Ball, Sir Roundell Palmer; Mr. Sullivan, Irish Attorney-General; and Mr. Gladstone. These are all famous men, and the debate whilst they held the ground was well worth hearing. Apart from the division, victory was clearly on the side of the Government. Sir Roundell Palmer, who does not object to disestablishment, literally routed the Ex-Premier and his new ally, Dr. Ball, and drove them out of the field. When these notable combatants had left the field, there were several skirmishes between very small men, the principal characteristic of which was more noise than work. They were like Chinese fighters, who put on fierce looks, make a great clatter with their shields and swords, but do little else. Whilst this was going on the House was very loose, and inattentive and noisy. Half the members, indeed, were away—in the library, or smoking-room, or lounging or sleeping in the division-lobbies. The somnolent members were numerous. In the inner lobbies, both down stairs and up, round which there are luxurious benches, there must have been fifty members stretched at full length, fast asleep; and there they lay till the division-bell aroused them to vote. The noise in the House increased as the hour approached to divide, and when the irrepressible Mr. Greene rose, culminated into a row. A very commonplace man is Mr. Greene. He has not, and never had, an idea in his head worth communicating; but, unfortunately, nature has endowed him with four special qualities—inordinate conceit, irrepressible audacity, great volubility, and a strange, loud, harsh voice, which seems to tear the air as he shouts, almost screams, out his windy platitudes, after the manner of a ranting preacher. On this night he told the House that he believed in the Thirty-nine Articles as far as he understood them, at which the House laughed consumedly, no doubt thinking that the hon. member with this deduction had not left himself much to believe. It occurred to us that Mr. Greene is not the sound Churchman that he professes to be. Sound Churchmen ought to believe, whether they understand or not. Long after midnight the Committee divided, and by 344 to 221—majority, 123—did actually, as far as in it lay, disestablish the Irish Church. Yes, the deed was done, and a memorable deed it was. So remarkable were the deeds done on these two nights, and strange were the scenes in the House, that we have devoted all our space to the description of them.

A BILL has been prepared by Mr. Biddulph, Mr. Goldney, Colonel Napier Sturt, and the Marquis of Lorne, to make better provision for facilitating and regulating the supply of pure water in cities, towns, and districts throughout the United Kingdom.

POLITICAL PENSIONS.—A Parliamentary paper, issued from the Treasury Chambers on Saturday, shows the names of political offices the holders of which might have become entitled to pensions under any Act of Parliament still unrepealed, and the names of the offices the holders of which may become entitled to pensions if the Civil Offices (Pensions) Bill becomes law. The total amount which might at any one time have become payable for such pensions under existing Acts is £21,600; and the total amount which may become payable under the bill now before Parliament, should it become law, would be £16,000.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

PAUPERISM AND EMIGRATION.

Lord HOUGHTON directed attention to the subject of emigration in connection with the state of pauperism now existing in various parts of the country, which, in his opinion, demanded the interference of Parliament. Earl GRANVILLE, having uttered an expression of sympathy with the suffering poor, and an assurance of the desire of the Government to do all in their power to relieve distress where it existed, admitted that emigration was an effectual means of lessening the pressure upon the poor rates, but doubted its applicability to the present state of things. A well-directed system would be beneficial; but unless carefully managed it would do more harm than good. The danger of employing the Imperial funds in aid of emigration, however, was that it would probably put a stop to the emigration from Ireland, which was now conducted entirely by private means; and if the emigrants belonged to the pauper classes the colonies might be inclined to follow the example of the United States, and adopt stringent regulations for preventing emigration altogether.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SMOKING ON THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.

Mr. SHERIDAN carried, by a majority of eight on a division, a motion compelling the Metropolitan Railway Company to provide smoking-carriages on their line.

THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on this bill, Mr. DISRAELI moved the omission of the second clause, which provides for the disestablishment of the Irish Church on and after Jan. 1, 1871, and the dissolution of the union between it and the English Church. What Mr. Disraeli proposed was, as he explained, that the union between the Churches should not be dissolved, but should be maintained and preserved. He enlarged upon the benefits of identity of doctrine, worship, and discipline, which would all be sacrificed by this clause, while it would equally endanger the integrity of the union and the supremacy of the Queen. It was particularly necessary to impress upon the House that the Roman Catholic religion was already established in Ireland, if it was not endowed, and that its present strength in that country furnished no proof of the strength of the voluntary system. It had the Pope for its head and ruler; why deprive the Protestants of their headship and governance by attacking the Royal supremacy? Mr. Disraeli concluded by demanding the concurrence of the Premier himself in the views he had expressed.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL followed, and denied Mr. Disraeli's position as to the established character of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland. Dr. BALL, in a speech of some length, contended that, whatever was taken away from them and in whatever form they were to be for the future incorporated, the Protestants of Ireland ought not to be deprived of the Royal supremacy, which could still be exercised in a personal form for the government of their Church.

Sir R. PALMER protested against this theory of personal supremacy, which he showed was neither morally nor legally sound.

A long discussion as to the real foundations and limits of the Royal supremacy arose out of the remarks of the preceding speakers, and both Dr. Ball and Sir R. Palmer, in view of its importance, again spoke in the debate, in which Mr. Graves, Mr. Candlish, Mr. Pim, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck, Mr. Monk, Colonel Bartolot, Mr. Whalley, Mr. S. Hill, Mr. Synan, Mr. Algernon Egerton, and Mr. Greene took part.

Mr. GLADSTONE addressed the Committee, and characterised as transcendental many of the arguments used in the course of the debate, and notably by Mr. Disraeli. The question raised by that right hon. gentleman, as to whether a particular religious community acknowledged an authority abroad, had no connection with the question of an established religion in Ireland, for the reason that the acknowledgment of a foreign authority was part of the voluntary profession the members thought fit to make. He contended that the supremacy of the Crown would not be touched by the bill now under discussion, and that the case of Scotland and the Act passed in the first Parliament of William and Mary was no argument in favour of a contrary theory, that Act having simply repealed a former Act, in which the supremacy was asserted in a special and unheard-of manner. The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Disraeli) had argued that the rejection of this particular clause would be compatible with the attainment of the main object of the bill—viz., disestablishment and disendowment; but the great bulk of his supporters had proceeded upon an exactly opposite principle, and held that the greater part of the vitality of the bill was involved in the very clause now being discussed. This he thought the most consistent and rational view of the case. He would not say that the bill without this clause would not be sufficient for the purpose; but certainly before expressing such an opinion he must be assured that none of the other clauses would be touched.

Mr. DISRAELI reiterated his statement that the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland is an established Church, and that by this bill it would have given to it a great and unfair superiority over the Protestant Church. The right hon. gentleman concluded by challenging the Premier to extend his policy to England, and asserting that the Irish Protestants had at any rate a right to ask for a postponement of their fate till there was one verdict of general ruin and complete destruction.

The Committee then, at half-past twelve o'clock, divided, and there appeared—For the clause, 344; against, 221: majority for the Government, 123. The announcement of the numbers was received with loud cheers from the Ministerial side of the House. The clause was then agreed to; and the Chairman having, on the motion of Mr. GLADSTONE, been ordered to report progress, the House resumed.

MONDAY, APRIL 19.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE CORONATION OATH.

Lord REDESDALE followed up a topic which he has more than once introduced to their Lordships during the present Session of Parliament, and endeavoured to show that if the Irish Church Bill passed into law it would be necessary to alter the terms of the coronation oath.

Earl GRANVILLE altogether refused to recognise this necessity, and pointed out that the only obligation which the Sovereign undertook by that oath was to maintain the Church as "by law" established.

COUNCIL OF INDIA BILL.

The debate upon the bill for amending the constitution of the Council of India, although somewhat protracted, was principally noticeable as affording the opportunity to Lord LAWRENCE to deliver his first Parliamentary address. The noble Lord, who was listened to with the deepest attention, confined himself to an explanation of our relations with Afghanistan and a vindication of the policy which had been pursued towards the Ameer by himself and Lord Mayo.

The bill was read the first time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SMOKING ON RAILWAYS.

Mr. SHERIDAN's proposal to add a smoking clause to the Metropolitan District Railway Bill, similar to that added to the Metropolitan Railway Bill, was defeated on a division by 188 to 167, or a majority of 21.

THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on the Irish Church Bill, Mr. G. HARDY, in the absence, from illness, of Mr. Disraeli, moved the amendments of which that right hon. gentleman had given notice. The speeches in which the late Home Secretary made those proposals were singularly brief, and for some time there was nothing which could fairly be described as a debate. By arrangement, the clauses relating to the constitution and power of the Commission to be established under the bill were postponed, and one or two others were agreed to without any substantial opposition. The first point upon which the opinion of the Committee was tested was the date at which the Act, if passed, should come into operation. Clause 12 provided that all the Church property should, subject to certain conditions, vest in the Commissioners on Jan. 1, 1871. Mr. Hardy proposed to substitute 1872 for 1871, in order to give to the members of the disestablished Church more time to form their new organisation and to adapt themselves to their altered position. The amendment was opposed by Mr. Gladstone on the ground that the interests of the Church of Ireland themselves demanded that the provisions of the bill should be carried into effect with as little delay as possible, and upon a division it was rejected by a majority of 167—301 to 194. Then Mr. Charley assumed the direction of affairs, and announced that if no more influential member would take the responsibility he should himself divide the Committee against the clause. Mr. Vance seized the opportunity to denounce the disendowment of the Irish Church as robbery and plunder, and the appropriation of the surplus as bribery and hush money; and Mr. Cross endeavoured to show that the supporters of this bill were more divided in opinion than were its opponents. Mr. H. Herbert protested against the suggestion that if this measure was passed the Protestant Episcopalians of Ireland would not provide ample funds for the support of their Church. The discussion went on pretty smoothly until Sir H. Hoare spoke of the opponents of the bill as a "miserable minority." This excited the wrath of Lord C. Hamilton, Mr. Newdegate, and other members; and there was a pretty sharp interchange of observations upon the duties and privileges of members of Parliament, in the course of which Sir P. O'Brien ironically compared Mr. Bentinck to Byron's Corsair, before whose frown of hatred "Hope withering fled, and Mercy sighed farewell." Upon a division the clause was carried by a majority of 111—214 to 103. Mr. Charley made an attempt to preserve the seats of the Irish archbishops and bishops in the House of Lords, but Mr. Hardy gave him no encouragement to divide the Committee, and he did not persevere with his amendment.



No opposition was, however, offered by the Government to the proposal to secure to existing archbishops, bishops, and deans the precedence which they at present enjoy; and the amendment, of which Mr. Disraeli had given notice with this object, was inserted in clause 13. Upon the next clause, that fixing the compensation to be paid to ecclesiastical persons other than curates, there arose a more substantial question, and one which was found more difficult of decision. The clause provided that in assessing this compensation the salary paid to any permanent curate should be deducted from the annual income of the incumbent. This provision Mr. Hardy represented as unfair to the incumbents, and he therefore moved to omit it from the section. In this proposal he was warmly supported by Sir R. Palmer, who asserted that in this matter the bill broke down on a matter of justice, and declared that the bill as it stood was unjust to rectors, because their incumbencies were not at present subject to any permanent charge for curates; and unfair to curates because it gave them no compensation for the reasonable prospect of succeeding to benefices. Mr. C. Fortescue and the Attorney-General for Ireland resisted the amendment on the ground that, if it were agreed to, the incumbents would receive compensation for income which they did not now actually enjoy; and Mr. Sullivan especially pointed out that in the returns which they had made to the Church Commissioners the rectors themselves had deducted from their incomes the salaries which they paid to curates. An observation of Dr. Ball, that every curate was capable of becoming Archbishop of Armagh, drew from Sir J. Coleridge the remark that every barrister was supposed to be capable of becoming Lord Chancellor; but he should himself be prepared to accept a very small sum indeed as compensation for his own chance of that appointment—a profession of humility which was received with some expressions of incredulity from the Opposition benches. The discussion was continued for some time; but after a reply from Mr. Gladstone, and a rejoinder from Mr. Hardy, the Committee rejected the amendment by a majority of 98—230 to 232. The Chairman was immediately ordered to report progress.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 20. HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved the second reading of the Land Tenure (Ireland) Bill, and, in so doing, said the measure was based on the recommendations contained in the report issued by the Select Committee, to which the question of the Land Tenure in Ireland was referred some time ago. While the noble Marquis had no expectation of satisfying what he termed the visionary party in Ireland, he had strong hopes that his bill would go a great way towards establishing amicable relations between landlords and those tenants who had not been affected by the harangues of "needy" agitators.

Lord GRANVILLE denied that the bill would satisfy even the moderate party in Ireland, to say nothing of the "visionaries." The Government were fully alive to the importance of the question, but, with the Irish Church Bill already on their hands, could not pretend to say how soon they would be able to undertake legislative action with regard to it.

After a short debate the bill was read the second time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

### COMPENSATION TO CHURCH ORGANISTS AND OTHERS.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in answer to Mr. O'Reilly Dease, said that under the amendment of which he had given notice, the question of compensation to Irish Church organists would be left in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. In answer to Mr. Collins, the right hon. gentleman said that clergymen ordained before the disestablishment of the Irish Church would be able to officiate and hold preferment in the Established Church in England; and with respect to those ordained after, he saw nothing in the existing state of the law to prevent their officiating, unless where any special statute interposed to prevent their doing so. He could not, however, speak positively on that subject until he had looked into the Acts bearing on it.

### THE RELEASE OF SIR EARDLEY EARDLEY.

Mr. BRUCE, in answer to Mr. Sconfield, said there was not the slightest foundation for the statement that Sir Eardley Eardley had been set free by his orders at the suggestion of the First Lord of the Admiralty.

### SITE OF THE NEW LAW COURTS.

Mr. GREGORY then, in a speech of some length, moved that the House should record its opinion in favour of the desirability of reconsidering the question of the site for the new Law Courts, inasmuch as the Thames Embankment offered many advantages for the erection of such buildings.

Sir ROUNDELL PALMER vigorously defended the Carey-street site as essential to the legal profession. The evening was occupied with a number of speeches from other members on the respective merits of the Carey-street and Embankment sites, till an entirely unexpected turn was given to the debate by a speech of

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, who announced that the Government had resolved to stop proceedings at Carey-street; to relieve the Commissioners of their duties; and to purchase land on the Embankment, not reaching up to the Strand, but bounded on the north by Howard-street, and to erect thereon a moderate building for the Law Courts, the cost of which would be limited to £1,600,000.

The debate was adjourned on the motion of Mr. HENLEY, to afford time for the consideration of this proposal.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

### MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS moved the second reading of the Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill, and contended that the Scriptural law only meant that a man should not take to wife the sister of his wife during his wife's lifetime. He urged that there could be no doubt about the meaning of the passage in Leviticus on the subject as shown by the best Hebrew scholars, the opinions of several of whom he quoted.

The motion for the second reading of the bill was seconded by Captain EGERTON.

Mr. SCLATER-BOTH moved that the second reading should be postponed for six months.

Mr. O'REILLY seconded the amendment, and quoted the opinions of Dr. Manning and the late Cardinal Wiseman in support of his views.

Lord BURY, who had formerly introduced a like measure, contended that the question was really one of religious liberty.

Mr. BERESFORD HOPE said he should oppose the bill, for the reason that, if passed, they might proceed further and legalise a man's marrying his stepmother.

Sir GEORGE GREY hoped the bill would pass, as it would, in his opinion, conduce to the happiness of a great number of people among the working classes.

Mr. BRIGHT, regarding the matter as one of sentiment rather than of argument, contended that the law as it stands at present is very unjust, and stated that in no other Christian country are marriages such as were proposed to be legalised by this bill forbidden. At present the law was very unjust, and particularly to the poorer classes. He therefore appealed to the House to mark its decision upon this bill by an emphatic vote.

Sir J. D. COLERIDGE opposed the bill, and contended that the majority of the people were quite content with the present state of the law.

The House then divided, and there appeared for the second reading, 243; against it, 144: majority for second reading, 99. The bill was then read the second time.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 22. HOUSE OF LORDS.

### INCREASE OF THE EPISCOPATE BILL.

Lord LYTTLETON, in moving the second reading of this bill, said that the main provision of the bill was to enable the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to found new dioceses, subject to the approbation of Parliament and the Queen in Council. He proposed that the present number of Bishops in the House of Lords should not be extended, and that the present system of rotation for sitting in that House should be extended to the new prelates.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY feared he could not offer to the noble Lord the hearty support of the right reverend prelates; for, though there was no doubt, an evil to be remedied, he did not believe that it met that evil in the best way. Since Earl Russell declared that it was desirable to add three bishops to the Episcopate the subject had been discussed in this House and by a Select Committee, and it had been admitted that there was a necessity for providing greater episcopal superintendence for the vast and growing population of the kingdom. He knew of one seat near London that might profitably be divided. He believed also that the dioceses of Exeter and Lichfield might be subdivided with great advantage. Dealing with the difficulties of this bill, he objected to the voluntary principle which it proposed to introduce into the episcopal system. He objected also to creating two classes of bishops, and he wished the nomination of bishops to remain with the Crown, which would not practically be the case under this measure.

Ultimately the second reading was negatived by a majority of 43 to 20. Seven of the Bishops did not vote.

### ECCELESIASTICAL COURTS BILL AND CLERGY DISCIPLINE AND ECCELESIASTICAL COURTS BILL.

On the motion for appointing the Select Committee of twenty-three to whom this bill was to be referred, the Duke of SOMERSET moved as an amendment that the number be reduced from twenty-three to fifteen.

The Earl of CARNARVON supported the Committee as proposed, as it was composed of five lay lords, six bishops, and twelve lay lords.

After some discussion the amendment was agreed to, and the appointment of the Committee was postponed.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

### IRISH CHURCH BILL.

Some business of no great interest having been disposed of, the House went into Committee on the Irish Church Bill. Some verbal amendments,

proposed by Mr. Disraeli, who was able to attend in his place, and Sir RoundeLL Palmer were agreed to.

Mr. PIM moved in clause 14, page 5, line 24, at end, to add, "Provided always that where the net income of the holder of any benefice does not at present amount to £250 per annum the Commissioners shall increase the annuity to be paid to the holder of such benefice to the aforesaid sum of £250 as from the 1st day of January next succeeding the day on which he shall have completed the term of twenty-five years in the discharge of the duties of a clergyman in the Protestant Episcopal Church in Ireland."

Mr. GLADSTONE said the Government were not able to accede to the motion, and it was because of the extremely indefinite character of the prospects that they could not consent to the principle of compensation for loss of prospect. He referred to the Government action in abolishing civil establishments, and there the duties were abolished altogether; the civil servant was compensated, not on account of his prospect, but for his vested rights.

A long discussion, pro and con., took place, after which the amendment was withdrawn.

On the same clause Mr. LEFROY moved an amendment giving a curate the right to recover his salary, after the passing of the Act, so long as he continued to act as curate. Rejected.

On the same clause Mr. GLADSTONE moved to insert words explanatory of a permanent curate, which was opposed by Mr. CROSS, who said he should wish to take the opinion of the Committee on the proposed alteration, which did not meet his views.

Sir R. PALMER suggested an amendment which he hoped would reconcile objections. Mr. Gladstone had no objection to accede to the alteration.

On a division, Mr. Gladstone's amendment was carried by a large majority.

Clause 14 was agreed to.

On clause 15 a long discussion arose on the amount to be granted to temporary curates. Mr. LEFROY moved the omission of certain words, with the view of substituting £100 for each year's service. The amendment was negatived by 220 to 107. After an animated discussion on the right of incumbents to appear before the Commissioners when deciding on the status of curates,

Mr. GLADSTONE proposed that the gratuity to non-permanent curates should be £25 a year, to be made up to £200 in cases under eight years' service, and in no case to exceed £600. The amendment was agreed to. In reply to Mr. Verner, Mr. Gladstone said a provision would probably have to be made to continue the appointment of workhouse chaplains of the Episcopal Church after disestablishment. Clause 15 was then agreed to.

On clause 16 Mr. BRODRICK moved to insert words to compensate diocesan architects. The amendment was negatived.

Mr. CHARLEY moved to give compensation to organists of any cathedral, church, or chapel, the effect of which was to remove that class of persons from the seventeenth to the sixteenth clause.

After some discussion, the amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. GLADSTONE then moved, in line 30, after "receive," to insert "and of the emoluments of which he will be deprived by the Act." The amendment was agreed to. Mr. VANCE then moved to insert the words "the amount of yearly salary which each vicar-choral and stipendiary chorist of any cathedral in Ireland is entitled to receive." Mr. GLADSTONE said that they would come into the category of organists, and there was no objection to insert the word "stipendiary." The amendment was negatived without a division. Clause 16 was then agreed to.

On clause 17 several unopposed amendments were agreed to.

Mr. CHARLEY then moved an amendment, the effect of which was to give to organists their full salary so long as they were able to perform their duties. The Committee divided, when the amendment was lost by a majority of 314 to 199. Mr. PIM then moved to insert after the word "compensation" the words "either by a single payment or by way of annuity." The amendment was agreed to.

Some other amendments having been passed, clause 17 was agreed to.

On clause 18, relating to the sale of advowsons, Colonel GILPIN moved that the Chairman report progress. A division thereupon took place. The result was the defeat of the motion by a majority of 289 against 176.

The Government soon afterwards agreed to the Chairman reporting progress.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1869.

### THE DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

WHAT—to employ the modern cant word, however inapplicable it may be—what are the laws which regulate the progress of social improvement? A small but increasing fraction of thinkers maintains that there actually are laws of the kind; while the immense majority ridicule the bare idea of such a thing. If anything could help the last class, by furnishing them with an illustration that looks crucial, it would be the case of marriage with a deceased wife's sister. The fight for the removal of the existing restrictions has continued for so many years, and has become such a commonplace, that it has been made the staple of several stupid jokes, besides being prettily bantered by Mr. Matthew Arnold. The great middle-class policy of the age, says that profound thinker, consists in doing as you like, and especially in marrying your deceased wife's sister. And it must be admitted that the great middle-class policy does consist in doing as you like, unless there is a proved reason for your being interfered with. Strange as it may appear to some people, this seems to others not very far removed from being a good popular definition of liberty. And it will be found, without going very far afield, that, among all classes and all nations, to do as you like unless you ought to be prevented is an idea which has found much favour among mankind. The real reason for instituting the restriction in question is what Milton called "the supercilious hypocrisy of those that love to master their brethren."

Let us put a case. John Jones has married Jane Brown, who has brothers and sisters. Jane Jones, née Brown, departs this life—let us hope to the reasonable grief of John. But, after a time, it occurs to him that Mary Brown, Jane's sister, would make him a good wife and be a kind mother to his children. If he had happened to meet Mary first, of course he might have married her instead of Jane; but now the Legislature steps in and forbids the marriage. This, certainly, looks like a flagrant case of interference without occasion, and the only wonder is how does it happen? The truth is, if once an abuse can get foothold, can establish itself, as this has done, there is plenty of tenacious ground from which it may draw sustenance. There is the stupid party everywhere, and especially in the House of Lords; and there is the supercilious party, which loves to master its

brethren—a party which, in all ages of the world, has had a large following. This restriction, then, is in its essence a chip of canon law, a remnant of the Dark Ages. The policy of the Romish Church has always been to look unkindly upon marriage, and every form of doing as you like, as much as it possibly could. It took every opportunity and snatched at every excuse for forbidding something or other—especially anything in which the relations of men and women, as men and women, were concerned. It was, we believe, not pretended by Cardinal Wiseman, who was examined by the Royal Commissioners who sat upon this question in 1847, that the restriction adopted in practice was anything more than a matter of ecclesiastical policy. But its adoption in that character was enough to give it some kind of foothold in some kinds of minds; and, though marriage with a deceased wife's sister was not made absolutely void in this country till 1835, it was made void by the Act of that year, and so the law has remained. Not, indeed, without attack; and the obstacle to the reversal of the restriction has been the will of the House of Lords, in which, however, the majorities against a change in the law have been steadily decreasing. In every country except this and our own more recent colonies, the marriage may legally be celebrated. Lastly, there is a touch of irony in the fact that a deceased wife's sister pays 10 per cent legacy duty because she is a stranger in blood, while the most distant cousin only pays 3 per cent.

The only reasons that can with any show of decency be urged against a change in the law are reasons of social policy. Those reasons are, however, of the most fantastic kind. When one thinks of the solid stuff out of which the married life of ordinary Englishmen is composed, it sounds like a joke to say that the consciousness in the domestic circle that some day the husband may marry the wife's sister, if the wife should die, will introduce elements of discord and jealousy into family life. In the first place, this is mere sentimental quibbling; in the second, it is not the business of the law to regulate people's private feelings; and, most important of all, even if it were true that these consequences would follow, and if that were (which it is not) a matter within the scope of the law, a sentimental inconvenience is not to be set against the practical admitted evil of continuous disregard of the law. These marriages, although they are void, are contracted by thousands in all classes of society, especially, perhaps, among the poor. It is a very common thing for a dying wife to urge a husband, if he marries again, to marry her sister. At all events, the thing is done, and it is undoubtedly inconvenient; but, practically, people have little to suffer for doing it, because public opinion does not condemn the marriage, and the wife is always "received." As for the children, they suffer, of course, from what is melodramatically called the "brand of illegitimacy;" but nobody ever saw the "brand;" and if children who are "branded" in this way are properly brought up, they get along as comfortably as other people, in spite of the "brand." But still the law ought to be consistent. If, that is, there are pernicious social consequences ensuing from these marriages, they should be made penal. Penal they never will be made; and in a very short time they will be made as legal, in the high sense, as they are in other countries.

In the meanwhile, there is another point which inevitably rises to the very surface of the question. Ask a statesman, or a clergyman, or your next-door neighbour, what marriage is. He will say that the law which makes fidelity to the tie compulsory is the very safeguard of morals and civilisation; that we should all go to barbarism and what-not if it were not for the compulsion exercised by law as to the intimate relations of men and women. Now, it is not only fair, it is necessary, to ask, "Do you think it edifying to have in your midst many thousands of couples who, though not married, are treated by society as man and wife, and who fulfil all the obligations of the bond in its legal shape, without being under compulsion of the bond?" If Jones marries Mary Brown after the death of Jane, he may, nevertheless, desert her at his pleasure; he is not bound to keep her; all she could do, if he were to whistle her down the wind, would be to affiliate her children and make him pay the weekly half a crown apiece. Yet there are many thousands—probably scores of thousands—of these couples who, while married only in name, are good and faithful husbands and wives, and watchful parents of beloved children, and in all respects quite up to the regulation pattern. Do you, then—we repeat the question—think a spectacle from which such "cartloads of inferences" might be drawn by people so disposed an edifying one?

HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA is fixed for June 23 and 24, with the addition of a presentation prize, value 25 gs., for fours without coxswains. Entries close on June 12.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT ASYLUM.—The foundation-stone of the Metropolitan District Asylum for the southern side of the metropolis was laid last Saturday, at Caterham, in Surrey, by Dr. Brewer, the chairman of the Metropolitan District Asylums board. A great number of persons were present, and the ceremony was made the occasion for a kind of holiday celebration. Dr. Brewer in his speech dwelt on the necessity for this and the kindred institution at Leavesden, in consequence of the inadequacy of the accommodation at present provided for the sick poor.

AN AMERICAN GRACE DARLING.—In 1838, the happily-named Grace Darling, in England, made herself immortal by her heroism in rescuing the people wrecked in the Forfarshire coasting-steamer. Rhode Island has a similar heroine in Miss Ida Lewis, daughter of the keeper of the Lime Rock Lighthouse, who, by day or night, in storm or breeze, springs alone into her boat to save life or do other service of peril. She is said to have saved the lives of a dozen persons—two of whom, soldiers, she rescued a few days ago. All honour to courageous Ida! As we cannot give her an obelisk or a statue, we give her a paragraph. The heroism of Grace Darling and Ida Lewis is the purest and finest in the world.—*New York Times*, April 4.



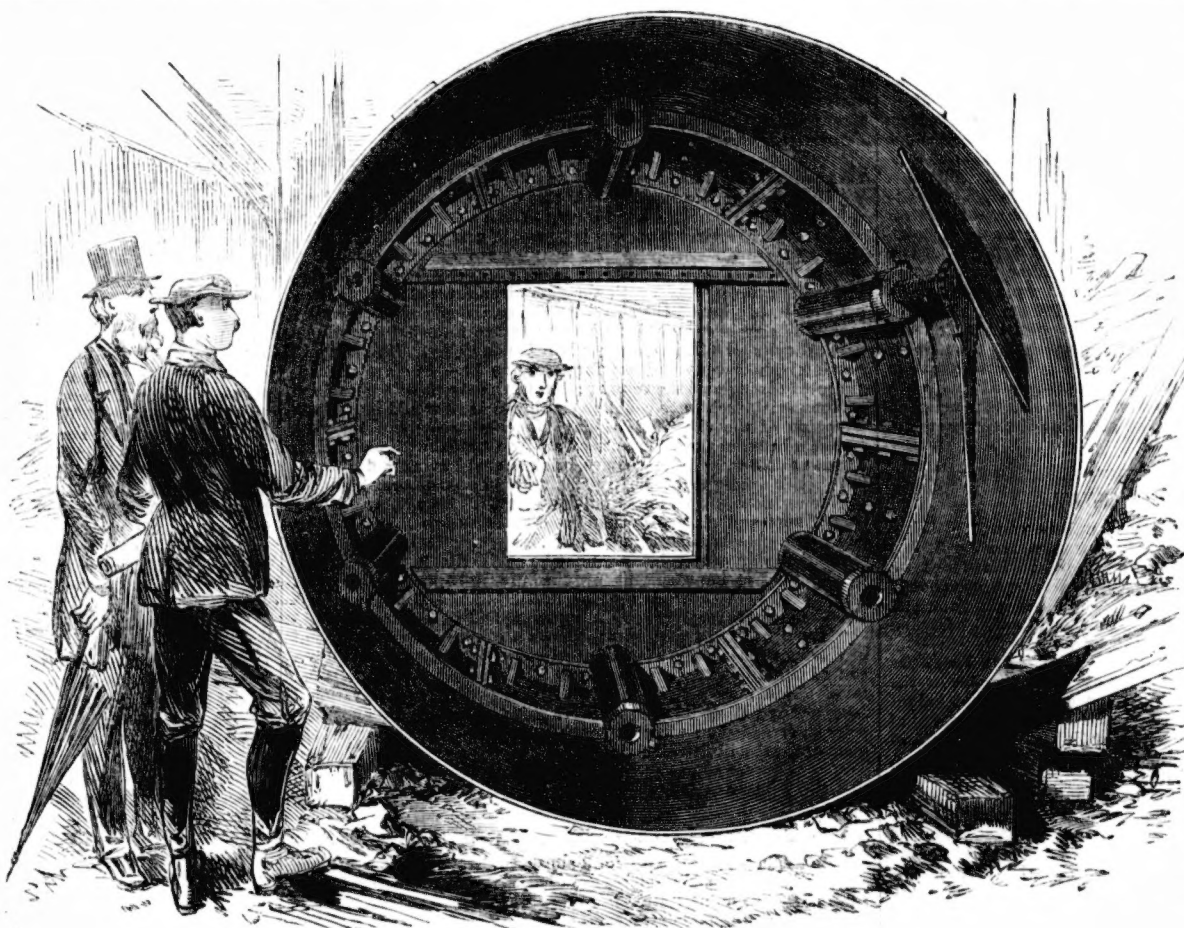


CATARACT OF SHOSHONE, RECENTLY DISCOVERED IN THE TERRITORY OF IDAHO, UNITED STATES.



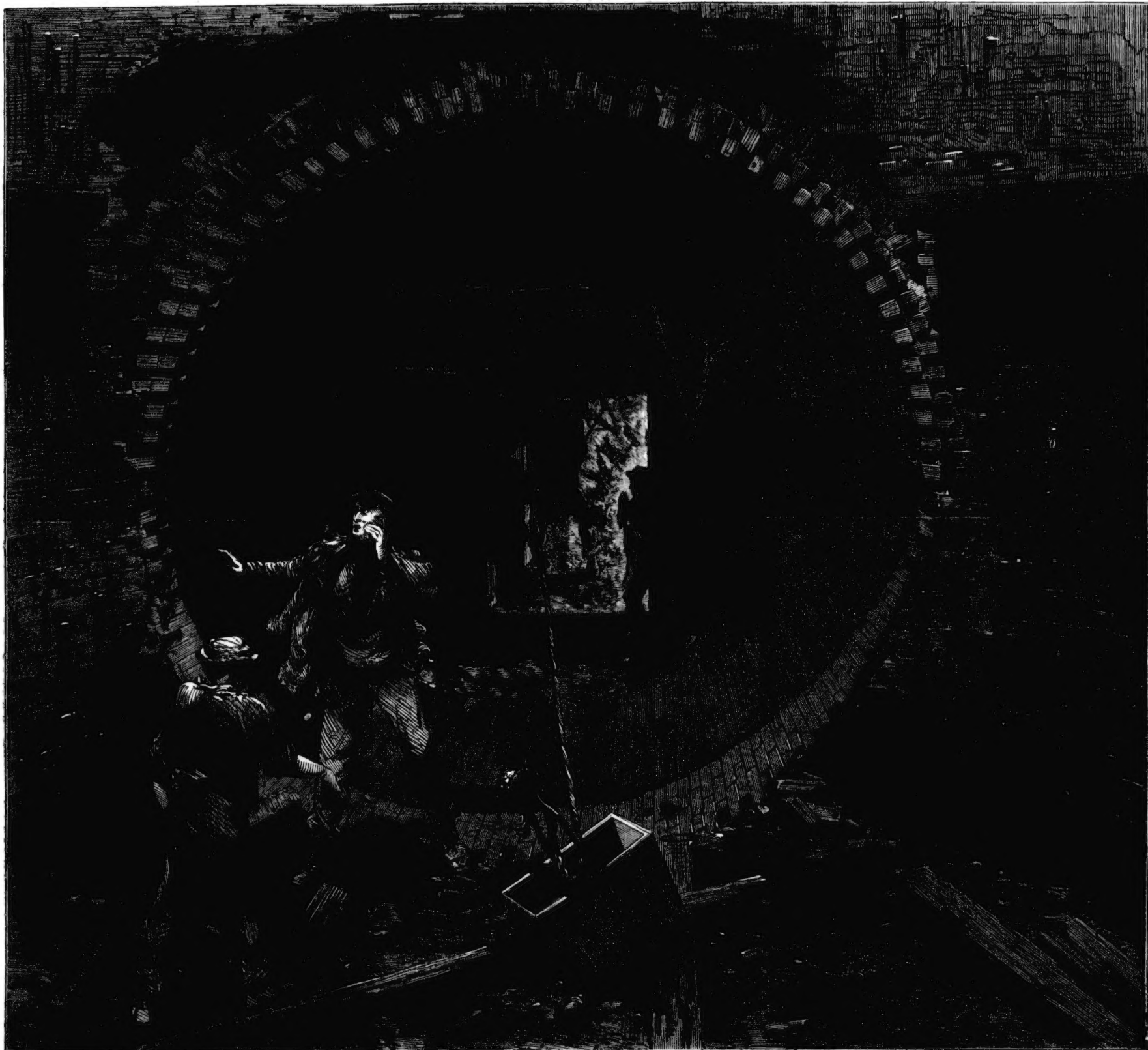
# NEW CATARACT DISCOVERED AT SHOSHONE.

SURELY, in these days when tourists are generally to be found ready to explore the latest discovery, the great wonder is that Mr. Cooke or Mr. Gaze have not made arrangements for an excursion to the North Pole, "and all found." The finding of a new cataract, which it is said will bear comparison with Niagara itself, cannot fail to stimulate relaxing energies and attract a crowd of eager and ardent travellers. They will have a good way to go, but the spectacle will be well worth the fatigue of a long journey. For many years past there have been rumours of a magnificent cataract beyond the prairies of the Far West, to the north of the Mormon territory. Vague indications have been given from time to time by trappers and Indians, who have either seen or heard of a great fall in the Idaho territory; but the restless gold fever left no time to investigate it. A few months ago no white man, either American or European, had seen the great cataract of Shoshone, as it is now called; but already the Idaho mountains resound with the voices of tourists, and in a short time a town will arise, with hotels, lodging-houses, bars, beer-houses, and general stores, while perhaps half the population of the States will have taken a trip by railway to the "big water," which a year ago was hidden in the solitudes of the west. These anticipations are not unfounded, for the rail-



THE SHIELD USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TOWER SUBWAY.

way (as far as its main trunk is concerned) is already formed. The Great Pacific line only needs a Shoshone branch to carry visitors "right away;" and the thing will doubtless be done. The discovery of the cataract seems to have been due to the detachment of the United States army in active service against the Indians, of whom a party had been pursued to the Goose Creek mountains, where the guides apprised the cavalry officers of a flood which fell with a tremendous roar over a precipice. Their curiosity was awakened, and, forgetting for a short time the pursuit of the unfortunate Indians, they pushed forward in the direction of the sound. It was a rather perilous journey, through tangles of thicket and briars infested with rattlesnakes. At more than fifteen miles' distance they could hear the sound of the fall like waves of the sea breaking on the shore; but an old trapper, of whom they inquired the way, told them he had never seen the cataract, but that when the wind set that way he was unable to sleep for the sound. The explorers, however, kept on their way, sometimes guided by the noise, sometimes by the vague directions of natives, sometimes by the trembling of the earth, and for a whole day were compelled to trust principally to their ears for an indication of the point to which they were making slow progress. Amidst that absolute silence the booming of the waters could be heard, as it was borne to them on the wind. At last their guide (who, perhaps, did not quite know the



THE SUBWAY UNDER THE THAMES, NEAR THE TOWER, NOW IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION.



way, and who could not understand their anxiety to discover a quantity of falling water, which, as he said, was not worth so much fatigue and trouble, "it would be a different thing if they were going up to the sky") abandoned them altogether, and left them to pursue the journey alone. At the moment when they had almost despaired of attaining the object of their search, they noticed what appeared to be mist on the horizon. They immediately concluded that it arose from the great cataract; and, after going on for a short distance further, they saw, a long way off, a large river shining like a silver band amidst black rocks. Still further on, they were able to contemplate a magnificent panorama. The river, of about 200 yards in breadth at first, flows slowly over a slight incline, whence it widens between sombre pillars of rocks, wildly jagged and indented. Its waters then leap and fall, wave upon wave, over a second slope, guarded by basaltic banks, grand in their vast solitude. The stream then narrows itself, as though to gather force before precipitating itself into the abyss; and then the rapid current at a single bound hurls its vast mass into the gulf from a height of 200 ft. This is the magnificent and terrible coup-d'oeil, which will bear comparison with Niagara. In the neighbourhood the noise is almost unbearable, and the flying vapour soaks the visitor who approaches the fall, while the earth, constantly shaken by the thundering force, seems to afford no secure foothold. It is recorded by one of the exploring party that the sound of the cataract can be heard at a distance of thirty miles.

### THE TOWER SUBWAY.

As our readers are aware, a subway is now in course of being constructed under the Thames at a point between London Bridge and the Tower, some Illustrations in connection with which we publish this week. The design, history, and proposed methods of constructing and working the subway are described in a pamphlet by Peter W. Barlow, Esq., C.E., F.R.S., on the "Relief of London Street Traffic," from which we make the subjoined extracts:—

"In the year 1863 a company was formed, of which I was the engineer, for the construction of a bridge over the river below the Tower, which was abandoned in consequence of the great height required by the Conservators of the Thames for the passage of ships. It having occurred to me at this period, while engaged in the driving of cast-iron bridge cylinders, that tunnels of cast iron, of similar construction, might be driven horizontally under rivers with perfect safety, I proposed a subway or tunnel at the same spot, in lieu of the bridge, for which an Act was applied for in 1864; but this was also abandoned, from the opposition of the wharfowners. The same company, however, in the last Session applied for an Act for a subway on the upper side of the Tower, having, on consideration, decided that such situation would command more traffic, being sufficiently below London to intercept much of the traffic passing round it, and so near the London Bridge Railway stations as to afford accommodation to many passengers passing from the railways to the Tower and that neighbourhood, and at the same time in a situation to admit of extension to the railway stations at London Bridge on one side and to the Metropolitan District Railway on the other. This Act had also to be abandoned in consequence of the objection of the Tower authorities to the construction of the shaft in the road leading to the Tower-stairs; but approved of the plans submitted to Parliament in 1867, and arrangements were then made for the land required on the Surrey side of the river.

"The question of the mode by which the passengers were to be conveyed or to pass through the subways was one which elicited much attention. There is no difficulty, of course, in lighting the proposed subway and allowing the passengers to descend a staircase and walk through, as in the Thames Tunnel; but the effect of burning gas in a subway or tunnel is to cause the air to become very impure, and render a walk by no means agreeable. The question of the power required to overcome the inertia of railway trains, which has engaged my attention for many years, and on which I have made various experiments, has led me to the conclusion that the amount of power exhibited by the locomotives on railways having frequent stations is principally to overcome the inertia, and that the power required for the traction of the trains is a very inconsiderable portion of the whole power exerted. It therefore occurred to me to estimate the actual power required to propel an omnibus carriage from one shaft to the other, a fall being given from each shaft to the centre of the river, so that the inertia is overcome and a velocity given by gravity. The only resistances, under such circumstances, to be considered are the friction and the resistance of the air. The numerous experiments on railway-trains with the view of ascertaining their resistances, which were principally made during the infancy of railways (before fish-jointing and other improvements), gave an average result of about 9 lb. per ton; but from my own observation, having propelled myself many miles by manumotives on railways, as resident engineer, I find this resistance depends very much on the condition of the rails, and is much less when they are in good condition, and there are no points and crossings. In a situation where the rails are free from dust and moisture, as in a dry tunnel or subway, the friction will be much less; and I have very little doubt, with a carriage made of steel plates and framing, and an accurately level finished road, that the friction may be reduced to 4 lb. per ton, or less. I propose, instead of compelling my passengers to walk through the tunnel, to give them a ride, the subway or tunnel being depressed from 10 ft. to 12 ft. in the centre of the river, to give the requisite velocity.

"Having arrived at the conclusion that the power required in an omnibus subway with the stations on the level is very small, it occurred to me that a system of omnibus subways might be applied for the relief of street traffic, worked by manual labour, in those portions of the metropolis where the surface does not vary considerably from the level. It should be here explained that in the Tower subway it is not proposed to allow the passengers to ascend and descend by stairs, but to provide them with the hydraulic lifts now so largely employed in hotels, and which are now rendered by recent improvements safer than a railway incline. Thus, in applying the system to the relief of street traffic, small irregularities in the surface of the ground are no impediment, and do not prevent the stations being on the level, because these lifts, as in the Cannon-street hotel, ascend without difficulty nearly 100 ft., and above half the area of London may be provided with subway communication on one level without lifts exceeding 50 ft., or 60 ft. The more elevated portions of London must, of course, be treated differently; and the method proposed is to have three series of subways at different levels, the carriage as well as the passengers being lifted in passing from one level to the other, and in that way, the stations still being on one level, and all inclines avoided, except between stations for the purpose of obtaining velocity the actual power required is so small as to be a subject of no practical difficulty.

"It remains now to describe the mode of tunnelling proposed, by which the surface of the ground will be undisturbed, and no danger arise from the encroachment of the river Thames. In ordinary tunnelling the mode adopted is to excavate a length in front of the finished portion and support it by timber, leaving space for the construction of the tunnel inside. By this method there arise three causes which influence the depression of the surface, whatever care may be used, but producing, with the ordinary care, much depression. In the first place, the tunnelling cannot be made to fit accurately the shape of the excavation of the tunnel. Secondly, several days elapse before the excavation and timbering are ready for the brickwork, and great pressure arises on the timber, which, being a soft material, is crushed by the weight, and the crown bars, more or less, come down. And, thirdly, the timbering cannot be erected of the exact shape of the tunnel, so that a space has to be filled in between the tunnel and the excavation, which cannot be effectually done, and is certain to compress, particularly if the crown bars are not left in. The method proposed to be adopted in the Thames subway more nearly

resembles that employed by Mr. Brunel in the Thames Tunnel; that is to say, a shield accurately fitting the shape of the tunnel is propelled forward by screws, so that the brickwork exactly fits the excavation. This method may be deemed to have been successful, even with a brick tunnel, because, in fact, the Thames Tunnel is completed. It is true the river broke in; but, as it was got out again, it is evident and admitted that the irruption arose from carelessness of the men, as it is clearly more easy to have kept the river out than to get it out again when it once broke in. Mr. Brunel had, however, to contend with a difficulty which will now be avoided by constructing the tunnel of iron—viz., that the space between the shield and the tunnel was always exposed.

"In the method now proposed, the shield is surrounded by a cylinder which overlaps the tunnel, so that the sides are always water tight, and the excavation is so small, compared with a brick tunnel (the diameter required for a full-sized omnibus not being more than 8 ft.), that the shield may be forced forward by the hydraulic rams or screws with a degree of power which would propel the shield through the clay with the end made solid, the force required being less than would be required to force by weighting a vertical cylinder 8 ft. in diameter into London clay. No such proceeding is, however, necessary for safety in London clay, which is expected throughout the subway; but in the event of a pothole of soft material, such force could be employed, and would render any irruption of the river impossible. No comparison can therefore be made between the difficulties of an iron tunnel with an exterior diameter of 8 ft. and the Thames brick tunnel having a flat top of 37 ft. and a height of nearly 20 ft.; and as several eminent engineers now propose to tunnel under the Mersey, and under other rivers and channels where the difficulties are much greater, from the greater width and depth, the practical difficulty of making the Thames subway cannot be contended for, particularly as the modern improvement of the diving-helmet and the air process were not known at the time of the Thames Tunnel; in fact, the latter improvements could only be applied to an iron tunnel.

"The quantity of cast iron to give a strength exceeding that of any brick tunnel of the same dimensions, when constructed will not exceed three quarters of a ton per foot forward, or 4000 tons per mile. This may be obtained at £7 per ton. The excavation I have allowed at double the ordinary price, although I do not consider such addition, after experience, necessary. The cost of the single tunnel will therefore be:—

4,000 tons at £7	..	..	£28,000
10,000 cubic yards at 12s.	..	..	6,000
			£34,000

Allowing for contingencies, I have no doubt that £40,000 per mile will be a sufficient estimate for a single tunnel. The actual land occupied, as no booking-offices are used, will only be space for the shaft. I have no hesitation in saying that, allowing for the land and shaft, and other contingencies, that £60,000 per single line, or £120,000 for double line per mile, will be an ample estimate. The cost of the Tower Subway is estimated at £16,000. With a traffic equal to the Thames Tunnel, the revenue will pay 20 per cent on the capital.

It only remains to be added that the shield has now been lowered, and is working in a most satisfactory manner. The chairman of the company is Mr. Prestwich, F.R.S., the eminent geologist; the engineer is Mr. Peter W. Barlow, jun.; and the contractor, Mr. Greathead.

**MARRYING TO DEFEAT THE LAW.**—At the Tunstall (Staffordshire) County Court, in February, the Chell Turnpike Trustees obtained judgment against Caroline Stonier for £15 and costs, moneys improperly withheld by her out of receipts for tolls. Defendant left the court protesting that she would not pay. At the court, in March, she applied for a new trial, which was refused, and she repeated that she would never pay the money. She was summoned on Saturday last with a view to her commitment for non-compliance with the order, she being reputed to be in possession of a large secret store of money, although having no visible assets. She produced a certificate of her marriage since the judgment was obtained, and naively observed that her husband had taken upon himself the liability to meet the judgment. On examining the certificate, it was discovered that the marriage had taken place on the day after the judgment; and, from the woman's replies, it was evident that she had married a travelling hawk, without any settled habitation, with a view of defeating this claim. On the application of Mr. Sutton, who appeared for the plaintiffs, and who said it was the most extraordinary case he ever heard of, the summons was adjourned for inquiries as to the husband, the certificate being impounded.

**MINES REGULATION BILL.**—The Mines Regulation Bill, prepared and brought in by Mr. Secretary Bruce and Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, is designed to consolidate and amend the Acts relating to the regulation and inspection of mines in Great Britain. It enacts that no child under twelve years of age and no woman above that age shall be employed in mines; that no male person under sixteen and above twelve shall be allowed to work underground more than twelve hours at a time; that the provisions of the Workshops Regulation Act, 1867, shall extend to women, young persons, and children above ground about mines; and that owners and agents shall keep registers of male young persons employed in mines. Provision is made also for the employment of males under eighteen about the engines; and penalties are imposed for the employment of persons contrary to the Act. The payment of wages at public houses is to be prohibited, and they are to be paid only in money, without deduction on account of expenses of supporting the roofs or sides of mines. The materials gotten by miners are to be accurately weighed, measured, or gauged, in the presence, if it should be so desired, of persons engaged by miners for that purpose. Single shafts are to be prohibited; and unless mines are divided in districts in such a manner that each separate district has at least one separate passage to it for the supply of air, not more than one hundred persons are to be allowed to be in them at one time. The 18th clause contains a number of important regulations to be observed in coal and ironstone mines. Amongst them may be mentioned those having reference to ventilation, the use of safety-lamps, the accumulation of water, the arrangement of the apparatus for signalling, the construction of the lowering gear and machinery, and the placing of a barometer and a thermometer above ground in a conspicuous position near the entrance of the mine. The 19th clause deals with the observance of the regulations by workmen and others. The next clause (which is also numbered 19) and seven following clauses refer to the preparation of special rules, &c. Clauses 28 and 29 treat of notices of opening and abandonment and fencing of mines, and the forwarding of notices of accidents to the Secretary of State. Clause 30 contains sixteen provisions as to arbitrations. Clauses 31 to 37 relate to inspection, and clauses 38 to 46 have reference to coroners and miscellaneous matters.

**DR. LIVINGSTONE.**—A report having been received from the Cape of Good Hope that Dr. Livingstone was at Zanzibar on Jan. 1, and had left for England by the overland route, Sir Roderick Murchison shows that this story must be erroneous. He says:—"The intelligence from the Cape of Good Hope that Dr. Livingstone had arrived at Zanzibar in January, and had proceeded homewards, is, I regret to state, entirely contradicted by information which I possess. I have a letter from Dr. Kirk at Zanzibar dated March 5 last, and at that time no news whatever respecting the great traveller had been received for a long period. Judging from his own letters of Dec. 14, 1867, and also from the intelligence derived from Arab traders, I was last year led to believe that he was proceeding along the eastern shore of the Lake Tanganyika, and that at the place called Ujiji he would meet with provisions, medicine, and letters, which were sent thither from Zanzibar. But this view can no longer be entertained, for Dr. Kirk informs me that Ivory-traders have recently arrived from the very region in question and had heard nothing of him. In this dilemma I may suggest the following hypothetical explanation:—If Livingstone, when at the southern end of Lake Tanganyika, satisfied himself that its waters were about 1800 ft. above the sea, as stated by Burton and Speke, he would necessarily infer that they could not flow northwards into the much higher equatorial lakes. In this case he would abandon the northern route, in which it was supposed he might find the waters of the Tanganyika flowing into the Albert Nyanza of Baker. Having also ascertained that the Tanganyika was fed by rivers flowing from the south and the east, it would be evident, under these circumstances, that this vast body of fresh water (300 miles in length) must find its way to the west, and he would then follow the river or rivers which issue on the west coast of Africa. Under this supposition, he may be first heard of from one of the western Portuguese settlements, or even from those on the Congo. If this view be entertained, we cannot be expected to hear of Livingstone for some time to come, as the distance he would have to traverse is vast and the region unknown. Again, this hypothesis explains why no intelligence whatever respecting him has been received at Zanzibar, inasmuch as he has been travelling through a vast country, the inhabitants of which have no communication with the eastern coast. While, however, I correct the erroneous intelligence which has just appeared, I beg your readers to understand that I still entertain a well-founded hope that my distinguished friend—thanks to his iron frame and undying energy—will issue from Africa on the same shore at which, after a very long absence, he reappeared after his first great traverse of Southern Africa."

### THE LOUNGER.

OUR Chancellor of the Exchequer can certainly keep a secret. His Budget surprised everybody; and on Tuesday again he astonished the House. On that night Mr. Gregory brought forward the scheme for placing the Palace of Justice on the Thames Embankment, instead of the Carey-street site, already almost cleared. A dozen members debated the scheme *pro* and *con*, for several hours; and when the debate appeared to be exhausted, Mr. Lowe, who had been sitting silent nearly all the while on the Treasury Bench, rose, and declared that the Government would take the matter out of the hands of the Commissioners into their own, and would probably decide, subject to the consent of Parliament, to erect no such ambitious structure as that which the Commissioners had decided to erect, but a much more "modest and manly building," costing not half the money; and hinted that it would most likely not be on the Carey-street site, nor the Thames Embankment, but on a square of ground which Howard-street bounds on one side, and the river on the other. The Carey-street plan would ultimately, in all probability, cost £4,000,000. Mr. Lowe thinks that a sufficient building, on the site which he recommends, may be erected for £1,600,000. Here was a surprise! The House was fairly startled, and could do nothing but adjourn the debate. Meanwhile the Commissioner of Works is to get plans prepared and lay them before the House. For several years these Commissioners have been dawdling and blundering over the work. The site and building was to have cost £1,500,000. The estimate now stands at £3,350,000; and Mr. Lowe tells us the whole cost would not be less than £4,000,000. Surely it was time that this expensive project should be resolutely stopped. Mr. Lowe stopped it as a surgeon would stop a flow of blood with a tourniquet. And, now we have got the business into the hands of a man of business, we may hope to see the thing well, handsomely, and cheaply done. A very resolute Chancellor of the Exchequer is this whom we have got to the fore, and very careful of our money.

There is one man who, I fancy, as he read the proceedings of the night, must have turned pale—to wit, Mr. Scudamore, Assistant Secretary of the General Post Office. He, as you know, has a plan for buying up the interests of the telegraphic companies and placing them under the management of the Post Office. Mr. Scudamore estimated that this magnificent operation would cost £3,000,000. But these estimates always have an irresistible force of growth in them, and this has already, though the negotiations with the companies are not all completed, grown to £6,000,000—that is, it will cost £6,000,000 to buy up the lines, apparatus, and interests of the companies; so that the Post Office would begin work with a debt of £6,000,000 at least. This is a startling sum, and in the minds of many there is a grave doubt whether our keen, resolute Chancellor will sanction the scheme. I have a suspicion, gendored by my knowledge of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and by the whistling of a small bird in my ear, that he will, when the time comes, put his foot upon it and crush it at once. The Marquis of Hartington is anxious to carry out the scheme; but it is known that Mr. Lowe, though he has not pronounced, looks coldly upon it; and that, in so secret a man, is ominous. It is quite open to Parliament to refuse to ratify the scheme. All it did last year was to give power to the Post Office to enter into provisional negotiations with the companies, subject to the consent of Parliament. Since last autumn, the shares of most of the companies have doubled in value, clearly because so rich a buyer as the Government was in the market. Surely this proves that the offers of the Post Office have been too munificent. If I had shares I should, after what occurred on Tuesday, sell out. Mr. Scudamore last year had Mr. Hunt at his back. The late Chancellor, anxious to do something to distinguish his reign at the Treasury, went into the business with all his heart; and it is but truth to say that the clever Post-Office official found Mr. Hunt very "soft to the touch," and easy to mould. But Mr. Lowe is quite another sort of man—a man not to be moulded, nor dazzled, nor fascinated by any official living, however clever he may be. Then it must be remembered that Mr. Lowe has lately preached the doctrine that a Government should never undertake to do what the people can do for themselves; and also that no leading member of the Cabinet is committed to the scheme. I think this ambitious project is in peril.

The Liberal party in the House is beginning to show what it means to do and can do. Its conduct on the Irish Church Bill is in every respect admirable. It leaves the debating mainly to its chiefs, and loyally, to a man, when the time comes, follows its leader into the lobby. Mr. Fawcett—all honour to him!—having by diligent search found that the poor have been badly treated in an Inclosure Bill, moved, even at the last stage of the bill, that it be referred to a Select Committee; and he was so strongly backed that the Government were obliged—not at all unwilling to be obliged—to assent. These abominable bills have hitherto passed *sub silentio*; but, rely upon it, this will never be done again. The country gentlemen opposite may storm; but the gentlemen below the gangway, on the right of the Speaker, are quite insensible to all that. Lastly, on Wednesday the Marriage of a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill was read the second time, by a majority of ninety-nine; and thus early in the history of the reformed Parliament that grievous wrong will in all probability be redressed. You should have heard the glorious cheer when John Bright, from the Treasury Bench, shouted out an expression of hope "that the ecclesiastical rubbish which had hindered the passing of this bill would be swept away." You and I, Mr. Editor, little thought to see so soon a democratic power at once so strong, earnest, intelligent, and disciplined in the British House of Commons.

"'Tis a mad world, my masters!" as witness the subjoined note, which has come into my hands—with a view, I presume, to publication:—"Dublin, April 20, 1869.—The Queen and Empress of the British Empire was present during the celebration of Divine service according to the rules of the United Established and Endowed Church of England, Ireland, and Wales upon Sunday morning, the 18th inst. I have the honour to be, by the grace of God, QUEEN CHARLOTTE LOUISA ADELAIDE CAROLINE SOPHIA."

The Lord President of the Council has requested Sir Charles Wheatstone, Sir Michael Costa, Professor Tyndall; Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, R.E.; Captain Donnelly, R.E., and Mr. Bowley, to report on the acoustics of the new lecture-theatre of the South Kensington Museum. There will be three trials—one by a lecture, with demonstrations on musical pitch, by Professor Guthrie; a second by voices, directed by Mr. A. Sullivan; and the third by instruments, directed by Mr. Eila.

### THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

#### THE MAGAZINES.

In the *Fortnightly* Mr. Richard Congreve attacks—if so strong a word applies to so reticent an article—so much of Professor Huxley's paper in the February number of the *Review* as applied to Comtism. Perhaps Professor Huxley would not care very much to defend what he said upon that rather irrelevant topic. By far the most interesting article in the number is that by Mr. J. M. Ludlow, on "Ferdinand Lassalle, the German Social Democrat." This is neither more nor less than a romance of the most peculiar kind. Professor Bain contributes a curious note in reply to Dr. Bastian in a previous number; but the question raised is too abstruse for discussion here. Mr. Lionel A. Tollemache gathers up a very large number of cases of extraordinary "Longevity," in a paper upon that subject. There is really no reason to doubt that a great many people live beyond one hundred; but the only generalisation that we seem even to have *scented* upon the subject is that people who live to a great age have usually had parents who did the same. Mr. Mill, on "Endowments," maintains (in opposition to Mr. Lowe) the value of endowments for educational purposes; and also, apart from Mr. Lowe's pamphlet, the right of the State to revise from time to time the application of endowments.



In *Contemporary* the Rev. H. R. Haweis commences a series of papers on "Handel," in which he displays all his usual easy mastery of his subject, and gives you something to think about on every page. The Rev. A. H. Wratishaw, on "The Writings of John Huss," communicates much information which is entirely new to English readers. Professor Bonamy Price, on "Mr. Foulkes's Letter," is, as usual, clear, but rather long-winded. Professor Milligan, on the "Critical Consciousness of the Early Christian Age," is rather weak at present. This is only a first paper; but he will have to make his case much stronger yet before it is strong enough.

*Scientific Opinion*, after a long gap, is here again; but there is only space to say that it is a capital miscellany, crowded (if it has a fault, excessive crowding is that fault) with intelligence, suggestion, and scientific criticism.

In *Good Words* Mr. William Morris contributes a poem, which is not in his best manner, being rather flat. But the number is a most interesting one. The paper on "Musical Pitch," by Mr. Hallah, startles me, for one. I was certainly not aware that since the seventeenth century the pitch had risen a minor third; much less that there is reason to believe that in the time of Purcell there were a chamber pitch and a church pitch; the latter being much higher than the former! In "Mosaism and Christianity," Dean Alford, being on a practical (and textual) question, is in his best vein; but what shall be said of the moral courage of the publishers who print such a paper about Sunday in a magazine which circulates so largely in Scotland? In the future, the "supplements" will be sold separately. This, as I said before, is just as it ought to be.

*Westminster Abbey* keeps up, at which I am equally pleased and surprised. It was rather daring to print that poem of Cowley's!

One of the oddest magazines going is entitled *Human Nature*. It is full of phrenology, spiritualism, and matters which are either cognate or are supposed to be so. One always desires to be fair to a minority, and there are things in this periodical which one would like to see read; but, on the whole, it is not quite pleasant. The fact is that in these border-lands, these uncharted grounds of science and half-science, there is so much space for queer people to "squat" in, that there is too often something unsavoury about the *personnel* of literature of this order. I fear that thoroughly honest and well-conditioned propagandists of these out-of-the-way regions must be content to bear the penalties which their associations entail upon them. If, however, the sincere men could keep clear of the quacks and the sensual dabbles who infest these border-lands, they would command the respect which is now denied them. It is hard to believe that anyone of sufficient intelligence to make his opinions valuable can believe in the "planchette or psychograph," which is advertised in this magazine, or in the people who advertise in this vein:—

REMOVAL.—has removed to —, where he will be glad to see persons interested in spiritualism, who desire a delineation of character or a diagnosis of disease of body or mind. If unable to call, persons may be visited; or handwriting, or photograph, or lock of hair, may be forwarded; and, being assisted by spirit intelligences, useful knowledge may be communicated. Mr. — will also, by the same power, describe the capacities and the most suitable education of young persons. Age and sex being stated adds the delineation when the person is not present. Fee, half-a-guinea; less to those unable to pay.

The "less to those unable to pay" is more delicious even than the vile grammar of the whole composition. Your readers will pronounce upon its moral characteristics; and it may be taken as typical of the class of advertisements which appear in this periodical.

#### THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

A short one-act operetta, called "An Eligible Villa," was produced at the NEW GAIETY last Monday. It is a translation from a French piece, and the music is by M. Gastinel. It is extremely slight in construction, and, as the greater part of the action of the piece takes place at the three open windows of the "eligible villa" (the exterior of which constitutes the scene), and only one of the dramatic persons comes forward on to the stage until the end of the piece, it cannot be said to afford the actors and actresses engaged in it much opportunity for displaying their histrionic abilities. Perhaps, however, this is not to be deplored. Of the musical qualities of the work it is not in my province to speak. The actors and actresses engaged were Mr. Frank Crellin, Mr. Terrott, Miss A. Tremaine, and Miss Constance Loseby. The adaptation is by the author of "On the Cards," "Dreams" will probably be withdrawn from the Gaiety programme this week, and Tom Taylor's comedy "The House and the Home" will be substituted for it. Three weeks hence a magnificent spectacular extravaganza, on the subject of the discoveries of Columbus, will occupy the place of honour in the bill. Mr. Alfred Wiggin no longer "doubles" the parts of the Rittmeister and the young musician in "Dreams." The former part is now played by Mr. Terrott with a rich brogue.

A farce called "A Lame Excuse," by Mr. F. Hay, the author of one or two similar trifles, was produced at the PRINCE OF WALES'S on Monday. It is not easy to see how the title is justified by the plot of the piece, which deals with the parallel amours of a young lady with a captain of volunteers and of a housemaid with a gardener. The captain and the gardener are suspected by the young lady's uncle to be trespassers, and he lays traps for them, which they contrive to elude. The piece is as flimsy as possible, and contains no merit of any kind.

Mr. P. B. Phillips, the clever son of the clever author of "Caleb Stukeley," gave another reading last week, at the EGYPTIAN HALL, selecting his extracts principally from the works of Dickens and Thackeray. Mr. Phillips is a charming reader; his voice is singularly clear and melodious, and his pleasant intonation is supplemented by an intelligent face, and an easy, graceful demeanour. The taste for this species of entertainment has increased so rapidly in the course of the last few years that Mr. Phillips may fairly expect a busy and prosperous career.

A new piece by Mr. Barnard was played at the ROYALTY this week; but too late for notice in the present Number.

A version of "Seraphine" by Mr. Dion Boucault will be played at the QUEEN'S very shortly.

At the end of May the POLYGRAPHIC Hall will be opened as "The Charing-Cross Theatre" by Messrs. Bradwell and Field. Operetta, drama, and burlesque will constitute the programme. Of the drama I know nothing—the burlesque will be on "Norma," and will be written by Mr. W. S. Gilbert.

LOUIS XIV. AND MILTON.—The following letter, written by Louis XIV. to Milton, was read on April 5 at a meeting of the French Academy of Science, and has a sort of historical interest:—"Monsieur Milton,—Desire to believe that the letter which you sent me, wherein were described your tour in Italy, and especially your interviews with the illustrious Galileo, has given me the greatest pleasure. Will you accept my gratitude? For I assure you that the letter is to me a most valuable possession. You tell me also in the same letter that you kept up till the time of his death a correspondence with the illustrious Florentine. Should I be indiscreet if I asked, if not for the originals, at least for true copies? If you will allow it, one of my faithful servants now in England will undertake the management of this affair. Will you favour me with your reply on this point? For, as I have already communicated to you, I have so great an esteem and consideration for Galileo, who was the beacon of the world, that I desire to possess all that he has ever written. With this, Monsieur Milton, may God keep you in His holy and worthy custody.—LOUIS. Sept. 2, 1639."

THE BIBLE IN PARLIAMENT.—What a comfort it is to have somebody on the Treasury Bench who has read the Bible, and got into his mind its sturdy and compact English! Mr. Bright was asked for a mass of statistics from the Board of Trade. He replied that he did not think that giving them would be useful, but that the publication would only induce various branches of the service to magnify their office. One of your platitudinarians would have said that the invitation to a multiplicity of departments to manipulate and tabulate infinitesimal details would be disadvantageously conducive to well-intended but undesirable amplitude, dictated by an ambition that the department with which the reporter was connected should assume an undeserved prominence in national estimation. Thank you, Mr. Bright, for the Pauline phrase—teach the House as much of the language of the Bible as you may, and, while you are about it, a little of its spirit.—*Punch's Essence.*

## Literature.

Poems. By J. B. SELKIRK. London: Longmans, Green, and Co.

Mr. Selkirk's volume has a better chance of being read than has one in a dozen of ordinary modern verse. This is not saying that he is a finer poet than the great majority, but that he is good in the sense of having written something which is readable. That may be said for him all through. And if we trace imitation here and there, imitation is no more than others, his betters, have done before him. He is decidedly musical, but, to make his music, he does not hesitate at times to make some distressing involutions. Invocations of high-down character to Euphrosyne, Thalia, &c., commence the book, and there are some pieces of a commonplace piety kind, which some people like. The songs are simply weak. What we like best are some easy-flowing *vers de société*, which almost deserve to be called poetry. For instance, "Promises," in which a young lady writes to her friend "all about" her engagement made half an hour ago. These are peculiarly graceful, although marred by such a blunder of a rhyme as "next" with "oppressed." Of another kind we select a specimen from "A Sermon," wherein a parson is taken to task for forgetting that he has "a human nature of his own":—

You need not preach a Christian creed  
With any hope men's souls to win,  
If in your heart you do not feel  
Some sense of fellowship in sin.

And even although the bulk of men  
Were poor and weak, where you are strong,  
You'd better try to lead them right,  
Than scold them when you deem them wrong.

You hurt your office and your power  
By taking ground so high as this;  
The world will not be led by such  
Unsympathising righteousness.

You but provoke its criticism,  
And feed it with the very food  
That keeps it living in the wrong,  
Though you may think you're doing good.

The truths you teach may be the best,  
And yet the teaching fail in merit;  
Christ's truth itself may yet be taught  
With something of the devil's spirit.

Such plain sense as the above is calculated to do good; but the misery is that—as Messrs. Longman know well enough—people do not go for sense to little volumes in green—or, indeed, for anything else. Yet, we repeat, this is one of the best of the many, and Mr. Selkirk deserves to work his way, if not in the present instance, at least with something better still in the future.

The House of Commons: Illustrations of its History and Practice. A Course of Three Lectures delivered to the Regatta South Park Working Men's Club, in December, 1868. By REGINALD F. D. PALGRAVE. London: Macmillan and Co.

The constitution, history, practice, modes of procedure, and formalities of the British House of Commons are themes which to Englishmen, either at home or abroad, must ever be of deep interest and signal importance. A grander history does not pertain to any assembly that ever existed than that which the House of Commons can boast. As great orators and as true patriots have sat upon its benches as ever formed part of any legislature, the Roman Senate in its palmy days not even excepted; and even its forms, antiquated as some of them may seem to uninitiated eyes, have a significance and represent principles that are of the highest value. Its debates, to be sure, are occasionally a little dull, and some of its members are now, and have ever been, decided bores; but then, on the other hand, the foremost men of all the age are to be heard there, the discussions in the Commons' Chamber are illumined by the efforts of real genius, and its decisions are pregnant with mighty consequences to the British people and with examples for imitation and warnings to guide the whole human family—so far, that is, as the human family have risen to the capacity for, and appreciation of, representative government. The House of Commons, therefore, is an institution regarding which interest never flags; and information as to its constitution and modes of action is ever attractive. We have ourselves done something to diffuse knowledge on these points; and the book before us contains, in a concise form, a very perfect view of the history and practice of the popular and now by far the most important branch of the Legislature. Mr. Reginald Palgrave is one of the clerks of the House, and is, perhaps, after Sir Erskine May, one of the best authorities we have as to its working. These lectures, consequently, have a special, almost an absorbing, interest, written as they are in a simple and easy style, and well adapted for popular reading. No man of even ordinary intelligence, after perusing Mr. Palgrave's book, can fail to have a clear conception of the working of the Commons' House, as well as of what it has done, and why and how it has done it. The modes of procedure are explained, the origin of the House's privileges and powers are set forth, the characters and careers of men who have been prominent in its annals are sketched, its faults (for it has faults) are in no degree glossed over; and the whole is seasoned with piquant anecdotes, that make the book more amusing reading than nine tenths of the novels and other works of light literature that daily issue from the press. The work, in short, is a complete epitome of Parliamentary history and practice, and contains all that is essential for the general reader, desirous of acquiring a competent knowledge of the subject, to study. Aspirants to senatorial honours will, of course, fit themselves for the discharge of their duties by carefully consulting the elaborate works of Sir Erskine May; but for ordinary men and ordinary purposes, Mr. Palgrave's book is sufficient, and we heartily recommend it. While it would be easy to fill columns with interesting and amusing extracts, we must confine ourselves to two, one of which illustrates the amusing, the other the ennobling, aspect of Parliamentary life.

#### DOGS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In the earlier days of its history the House of Commons so greatly enjoyed small comicalities (it is rather given to doing so still) that it recorded them in its journals. "For instance," says Mr. Palgrave—

We find on those venerable pages this entry, dated Thursday, May 31, 1604:—"A jackdaw flew in at the window" of the House, and that the jackdaw "was called upon to the bill" in debate; a bad omen apparently, for the bill was soon after thrown out. Again, we are told that on May 14, 1806, "A dog comes in. A strange spaniel, of mouse colour, came into the House of Commons."

Nor was this precedent forgotten by the dogs of Westminster. Everything in Parliament follows precedent; and, about 170 years after, the spaniel's conduct was followed too. A dog again boldly came into the House, and took his seat there, before the Speaker, the Prime Minister, and all the representatives of Great Britain. Not content with silence, the dog joined in the proceedings—he barked stoutly. Lord North, the then Prime Minister, was also sharing in the debate. Amused, he appealed to the Speaker, "Sir, I am interrupted by a new member." The dog did not take the hint; his speech of "bow, wow, wow," continued; and the good-humoured Premier kept up the joke: "the new member," he said, "had no right to speak twice in one debate."

#### SIR JOHN ELIOT.

To Sir John Eliot, who so nobly vindicated the right of free speech in Parliament in the troublous times of Charles I., when to vindicate freedom of any sort was perilous work, Mr. Palgrave pays the following eloquent tribute:—

On the walls of an old mansion in Cornwall hangs the portrait of a man—of a man, solemn-looking, gaunt, and haggard. His eyes have that restless, appealing glance that bespeaks long pain of body and long trouble of mind. The face is evidently the face of one wasted near to death by illness and adversity. My description of this picture is no fancy description; nor is this portrait a fancy picture: it is the faithful likeness of a faithful Englishman. For the picture I describe is the likeness of Sir John Eliot, taken in the Tower of London, during the month of November, 1632, just

before his death. How differently was life once reflected on that face! Eliot was a Cornish gentleman of good property—of good standing in his country. Worthy friends admired Eliot's worth, and he returned their regard. He enjoyed respect even from his enemies. His mind was stored with knowledge. He had every reason to love life, to hope to see good days; for he was endowed with ample means for serving England, both as a county landlord and in Parliament; and to do good to England Sir John Eliot deemed the chief of good.

But all this he apparently sacrificed. He offended the reigning monarch, Charles I.; he was shut up in the Tower of London; he died there: his death was caused by that imprisonment. Willfully he seemed to throw away all that endeared his life; all chance of doing good to England. But Sir John Eliot did right. He felt, nor was he mistaken, that his wasted life in prison was no waste; that the cause for which he died was worth his death.

The cause for which Eliot died was justice to his country. He fearlessly maintained that it was the birthright of an Englishman to speak his mind freely in Parliament; he persisted in making King Charles feel the touch of his birthright. That was why Eliot died. Over and over again did he raise his voice in the House of Commons against the injuries that Monarch inflicted on his subjects. Over and over again did he accuse the Ministers of the Government, who tempted the King to wrong, and who in his name committed wrong. To this cause Sir John Eliot was constant. As constantly did he taste the ill-will of men in power. He was falsely accused, threatened, and imprisoned. Still he persisted, fearless; nor was his work fruitless. On that memorable day, March 2, 1632, he encouraged the House of Commons to make that great effort to stay the King in his evil path, to protect England against injustice. They did so; but their leader they could not protect. King Charles saw that to maintain his authority Eliot must be silenced, not for a time, but altogether. He was arrested and sent to the Tower of London.

Consider how much Sir John Eliot underwent! Though he saw men set free, fellow-members of Parliament, and fellow-offenders against the King; though he knew that, if he too chose, he could have, not freedom only, but place and power; though he knew that his estate much needed the master's eye; though he knew that his children, who were motherless, greatly lacked their father's care; though his youngest child died, and he away; though he foresaw that his health must break under imprisonment; though, when his enfeebled lungs most needed warm air from the sun, he was placed in a stifling den, where he had only candlelight, and but "scarce fire"—still Eliot never dreamed of desertion from the cause of his fellow-countrymen. And thus he rested faithful for their sake during nearly four years of harsh imprisonment—of imprisonment that he was aware must kill him.

That portrait truly pictures the outside look of a worn-out captive—of Eliot with death in view. Yet, in his dark cell, under death's shadow, Eliot was cheered by radiance beyond expression from a painter's hand, more truly bright than the sun's brightest ray. To the last he declared himself joyful—joyful in the thought of God's love, joyful in gaining by affliction that love in its fullness. Thus Eliot died, on Nov. 27, 1632, at peace with God and at peace about his country; for he knew that true Englishmen would take up England's cause where he in death dropped it.

We should add that there is a capital index and some valuable notes appended to the lectures, and that a careful perusal of the volume has only revealed to us one fault—namely, an occasional tendency to that diffuseness of style which is apt to characterise House of Commons talk, and to infect, apparently, all who come into close contact with the House and its members. Of this fault we will adduce one instance that happens to fall under our eye as we open the volume. On page 38 we find this sentence:—"One evening, when the debate was in full swing, a tall grim-faced member rose from his seat, got up, and walked down the floor of the House." This ringing of the changes on "rose from his seat" and "got up" may be only a slip of the pen; but it is marvellously House-of-Commons-like, for in that assembly "vain repetitions" are not so carefully eschewed as they should be.

Tinker Alop, and his Little Lessons for the Age. By JOHN VICKERS. London: Longmans, Green, and Co.

This curious volume has for its motto "Reason over Passion;" but, whilst admitting that it is very dispassionate, it is only fair to add that it is singularly wanting in reason. The volume is made up of exactly one hundred short lectures, with attempts at fables at the end, proving that all mankind have been wrong in everything that has happened or has taken place during the lifetime of Mr. Vickers, the author. This is overdoing the thing. He is a great deal too wise. Assuming the position of a travelling tinker, with a shorthand writer as companion and reporter, Mr. Vickers pretends, in a purely literary sense of course, to have been all over the country, and to have lectured every great man in it. He is always putting some great man to the blush. At Richmond, for instance, he calls at Pembroke Lodge to sharpen Earl Russell's razors: he is clever enough to say that the noble Lord no longer wants his assistance, and we are sane enough to wonder how his Lordship could ever have endured his society; and whilst using the grindstone gives Earl Russell a "bit of his mind," and a fable on his Lordship's whole career. Such ridiculous folly was never before put into print. Lord Palmerston comes off no better. Nobody can get a good word from the "Tinker." And the beauty of it is that, from first to last, despite his "reason over passion," he shows himself to be as much biased and prejudiced as any statesman who ever yet battled for government by party. The book is a mistake, yet not an unamusing mistake. There is plenty of good sense in it, and material for reflection over which people have long since done their reflection. We all know, for instance, why we fought in the Crimea: we all know why Russia was anxious as to the Christian Churches, and how anxious we were to keep the Russian foot from the Mediterranean shore. It is too late for this "Tinker Alop" to come and tell us that Cobden was the only sensible man in those days.

We observe that the "Tinker's" book does not bear the celebrated name of Spottiswoode as printer—an almost invariable mark of distinction with Longmans' books. Perhaps the publishers have only lent their great name during a temporary lull in the book market.

FLYING SCUD IN THE STREET.—Great excitement was created in Edgware-road the other evening by the appearance of a horse and jockey in full racing costume galloping madly towards the Marble Arch. A hue and cry was at once raised at such a novel sight, but all attempts to stop the horse were unavailing until the park was reached, when, the horse getting exhausted, the jockey managed to pull him up. On inquiry, it seems that the jockey and horse were to have taken part in Mr. Boucault's drama of "Flying Scud," now being performed at the Alfred Theatre; but just before going on the stage the horse trod on a bag of torpedoes, used to imitate the cracking of whips, and the loud bang of these torpedoes so alarmed the animal that he bolted out of a side door, leaving, for the first time of his many performances, the race to be won by a dummy, and the curtain to fall on an inglorious tableau. Fortunately, no one was injured.

A WORD TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND BY ELIHU BURRITT.—When we are told that over three millions of men in the prime of manhood are trained in the armies of Europe for war, I say to myself, nineteen out of twenty of all this host are poor men's sons. Think how much hard toil in the field and factory, in mine and mountain—what parental tears and trials, and anxieties—it cost to raise up these three millions of young men to the age of eighteen or twenty years! Then I look at them while they are at drill; I see they are all picked men—all chosen for perfect health, strength, and stature. The military surgeon has examined them all, and declared them all very good for war. We have no surgeons to examine candidates or recruits for the plough, axe, hammer, or spindle. Bow-legged men, asthmatic men, one-eyed men, rheumatic men, are deemed good enough for the great industrial armies of the world; just as if War must have the flowers, and Peace the weeds of mankind. I have walked all over England, from Land's End to John o' Groats, in the spring and summer months. It is a beautiful country; nearly the whole island is cultivated like a garden. The amount of labour applied to its cultivation is perfectly wonderful, especially to an American like myself. And while I wonder, I put this and that together in this comparison. They say it takes 700,000 agricultural labourers to make this island such a great garden of beauty and fertility. Their wages average ten English shillings a week. Then the labour of the whole 700,000 men and women for the year cost £18,200,000; and what a glorious show of green and golden crops they spread over the whole island for that sum! I look at it with admiration. But I cannot help looking at something else at the same time. I look at the English war Budget for 1866, a year of armed peace. I see £26,000,000 put down for the cost of mere armaments for war in that year! That is, £2 for the plough against £3 for the sword in time of peace. This comparison stirs up sad reflections about producers and consumers. I once heard it stated in the British Parliament that a certain bombshell of a new pattern cost £11 when ready for use. Then it would cost the labour of an able-bodied man at the plough, sickle, and hoe, for six spring and summer months, to pay for one of these death-dealing shells! How much honest, patient labour is swallowed up in the wolfish maw of War!



### M. FRERE-ORBAN, BELGIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE disputes which have recently arisen between France and Belgium have made the name of M. Frère-Orban prominent among those of Continental statesmen, and we this week publish his portrait as that of the man to whom the settlement of these threatening difficulties has been intrusted. M. Orban first ascended to office on Aug. 12, 1847, being then thirty-five years of age, but quitted the Government in 1852, to resume a position as Minister of Finance in 1857. This eminent office he only relinquished in order to accept the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. In 1860 he succeeded in abolishing the municipal octroi, and the turnpike dues on the national roads, and many other liberal measures have received his support and earnest co-operation. M. Orban may be said to unite the qualities of the statesman and the orator in a greater degree than is usually found in ardent politicians; and his physical qualifications are eminently suited for the exhibition of those talents which so remarkably distinguish him.

### THE ASCENT OF VESUVIUS.

MOUNT VESUVIUS, as may be seen when it is approached from the west, stands in the midst of a slope rising about 2300 ft. from the sea, and from this slope springs a cone at a nearly uniform angle of 32 deg. for another 1500 ft. The cone does not terminate in a point, but is truncated so as to leave a summit of 2000 ft. in diameter; and as recently as 1838 this summit presented the form of an uneven plane, but an eruption afterwards changed its appearance, converting what had seemed a solid plane into a hollow cup, with an outer rim varying in breadth from 400 or 500 ft. on its western side to not more than 50 ft. in other parts, and with an internal surface sloping gradually to a depth of about 500 ft. To the north, beyond the cone and its encircling plain, is a lofty wall-like precipice, forming an arc of a circle 1400 ft. high and three miles long, known by the name of Monte Somma. The flanks of this mountain, which is the exterior crater of the volcano, are amongst the most fertile portions of the earth; covered with vineyards, producing the finest wine; orchards full of fruit and luxuriant corn-fields; so that on the same soil may be seen a magnificent wheat crop, 5 ft. high, overhung with clustering grapevines, swinging from one apple or pear tree to another in luxuriant festoons. Everywhere in the vicinity, however, the fine impalpable dust has about it indications of the volcanic nature of the place; and the fertile territory is intercepted by lines or terraces of black calcined matter, traceable to the central mass from which they have descended in molten lava streams. The scoriae are of all forms and sizes, from porous masses of 8 ft. to 10 ft. across to pieces as small as hazel-nuts, and the whole upper space, covered with the black jagged masses, is most desolate; while the cone itself is composed externally of scoriae, blocks of lava, and volcanic sand. It may be imagined, therefore, that the ascent of the mountain is a task which, though it is full of interest and cannot handsomely be neglected by the enterprising traveller, is a disagreeable, though not a very difficult, journey. Ladies certainly require the assistance of the guides or of their male friends, and the footing is often insecure, while a descent after dark is very hazardous in some states of the weather, and has occasionally resulted in rather serious accidents. A moderately robust frame and a little practice in hill climbing is, however, sufficient to enable even ladies to ascend to the top without more assistance than is depicted in our illustration. The ascent of the mountain in the early springtide is an undertaking which requires some preparation if the weather be cold enough to clothe the cone with ice, especially if the journey be made late in the day. Who can forget the description given in Dickens's Pictures from Italy of the expedition from Resina, the little village at the foot of the mountain, on the occasion when he and a party went to visit the volcano, and looked forward to having sunset half way up, moonlight at the top, and midnight to come down in? Each of the ladies of a party is carried by half a dozen guides, who stimulate each other with their usual watchword, "Courage, friend! it is to eat macaroni." A wonderful sight is the mountain side, the broad sea, tiny Naples in the distance—the whole enchanting prospect under the silver moonlight! A wonderful sight the region of fire; the exhausted crater, where from every chink and crevice of the gigantic cinders hot sulphurous smoke is pouring out; while from another crater great sheets of fire are streaming forth—reddening the night



M. FRÈRE-ORBAN, BELGIAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

with flame, blackening it with smoke, and spotting it with red-hot stones and cinders that fly up into the air like feathers and come down like lead!

The usual way of descending is by sliding down the ashes, which, forming a gradually-increasing ledge below the feet, prevent too rapid a descent. But when there is ice on the mountain this cannot be done; and the excursionists must be very wary, and pretty well accustomed to hill work, if they escape without a disaster to one or other of the party, and reach the Hermitage on the mountain in safety, thence to go more easily back to Resina.

### RESIDENCE OF THE EX-KING OF HANOVER, AT THE VILLA BRAUNSCHWEIG.

POOR King of Hanover! He has at length retired into private life; and really, to people who have never had the opportunity of trying what Royalty is like, this kind of retirement can only with difficulty be regarded as an absolute calamity. There is the Villa Braunschweig, for instance, represented in our Engraving as the place where his retired Majesty—if we may use the expression—"hangs out;" and, upon our word, we have seen a good many worse-looking places. A hard-worked King might, we should think, make himself very comfortable for a time in this charming retreat, if he only gave his mind to it. We could almost fancy a cynical Monarch chuckling to think how foolish the King of Prussia has been, when he is growing old and must require some rest, in taking upon himself so much additional responsibility by the annexation of the grand duchies when he might have retired to the enjoyments of a country house and a charming pleasure-garden; but such is not the disposition of George of Hanover, and he doubtless feels poignantly the hard necessity which has made even this pleasant place his home. That it is a pleasant place needs very little insisting on: for Hitzing adjoins Schönbrunn, with its exquisite gardens and surrounding country of picturesque wood and valley.

### BALL AT THE CHINESE EMBASSY, PARIS.

WE have already given a short description, with accompanying Portraits, of the Chinese Embassy, which, under the direction of Mr. Burlingame, is making such a prolonged stay in Paris; and this week we publish an illustration of the great event of the spring season—namely, the grand ball given by the Celestial visitors to an enormous assembly of the most eminent people of their acquaintance, which means, in fashionable parlance, to "the world"—since we have been reminded that "all the world was there," and, we may add, his wife also—if we are to accept the accounts of the crowd upon the grand staircase of which our Engraving is a representation. Fancy being in the same room or on the same landing with statesmen, foreign Ambassadors, Greek, Russian, German, French, English, and other almost unknown nationalities, with strange names, and remarkable costumes. The confusion would have been interminable but for the genius of Mr. Burlingame, who had stationed intelligent masters of the ceremonies at various points to direct the guests, and himself received the company at the entrance of the saloons. Both he and his wife are spoken of as admirable and charming, and by every other pleasant adjective which will apply to thoroughly polite and yet cordial and sociality-promoting people. There was soon no trace of official stiffness or fashionable cohesiveness, and the ball was as easy and unstrained as a village festival.

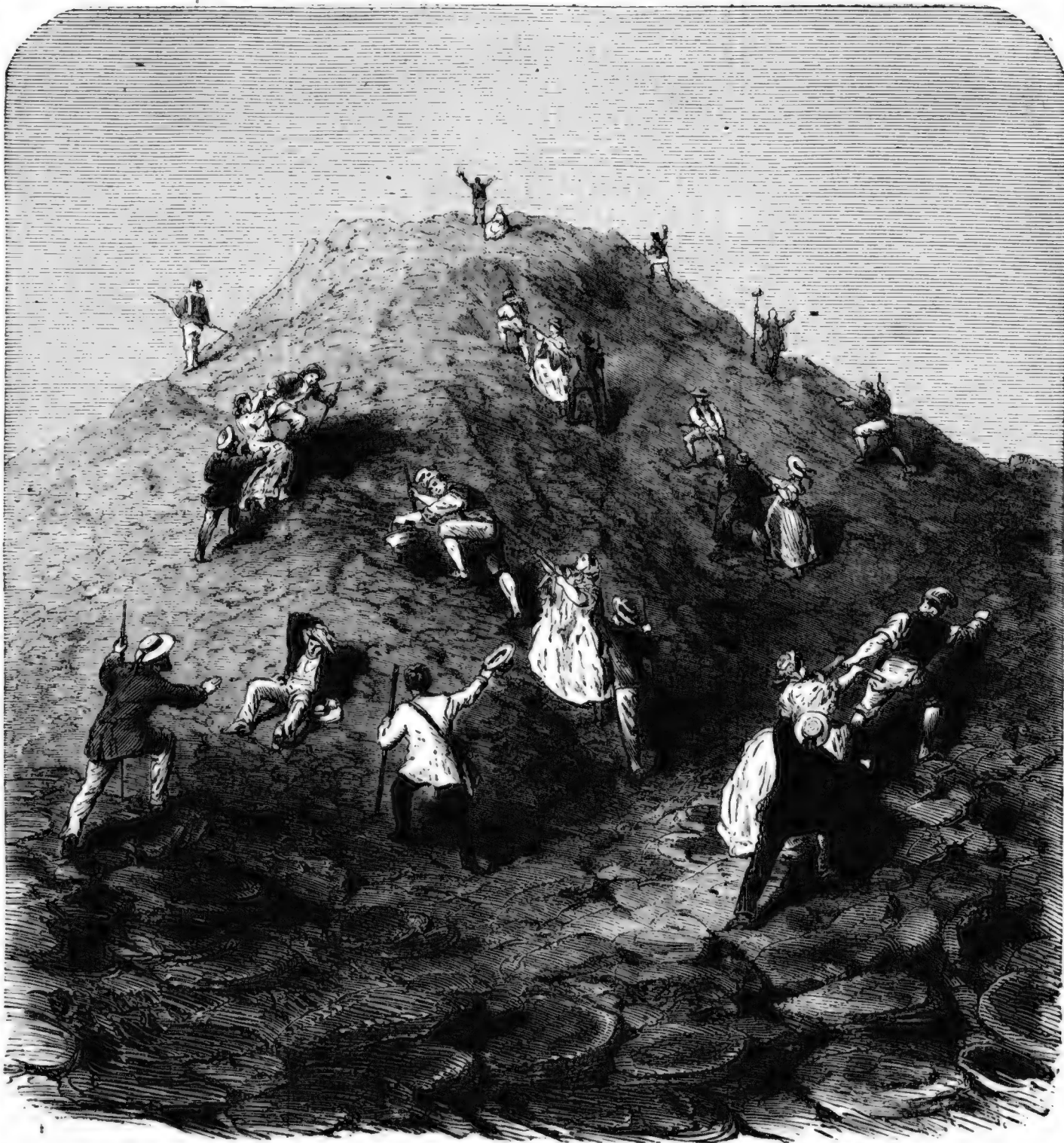
Mr. Burlingame's colleagues, the mandarins, assisted by MM. Leary, Brown, and about ten young Chinese, all speaking English very well, did the honours of the second floor, where the buffet was laid out and supper served towards one o'clock. The simplicity and the *bonne grace* of these representatives of the Celestial Empire were delicious. They chatted most gaily, and with extra-

ordinary intelligence, through interpreters, with the different persons introduced to them. Chi, the first Minister, and San, the second, were so pleased with the conversation of a literary lady, who proved herself learned in the writings of Confucius, the translation of Chinese poetry by Judith Mendez, and the different phases that ceramic art has passed through in their country, that they ran off to fetch for her and for some young ladies under her charge, their photographs, on the backs of which they wrote some very neatly-turned compliments. They paid particular attention to everyone whom they had heard was distinguished as a writer, but treated grand crosses, senators, and noblemen as of less account. Chi, in a simple way, when told that a French nobleman who aided the Emperor to ascend the throne on Dec. 2 wished to speak to him, said, "Tell his Excellency that presently I shall be delighted to have the honour of shaking his hand; but as I am now speaking to a sage, I cannot yet attend him."

The tea was made in the Chinese way. The champagne was served early, as in America, and all the wines were expressly selected from the very finest qualities.

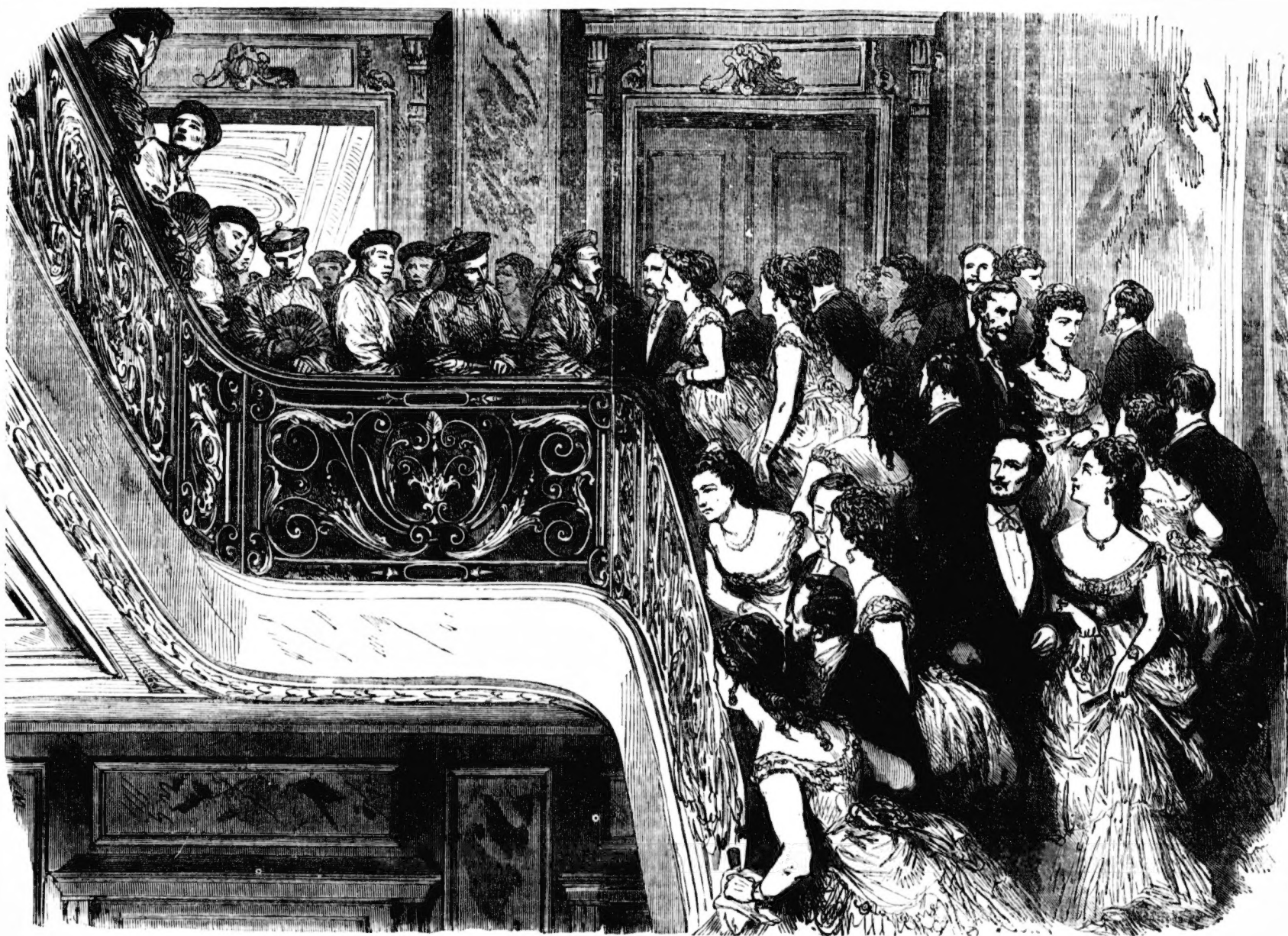
### BEGGARS.

KENSINGTON generally, and South Kensington in particular, has just, but not exceptional, cause for grumbling in the hordes of beggars to be found there. The letters of complaint upon which



AN ASCENT OF MOUNT VESUVIUS.





BALL AT THE CHINESE EMBASSY, PARIS: VIEW OF THE GRAND STAIRCASE.

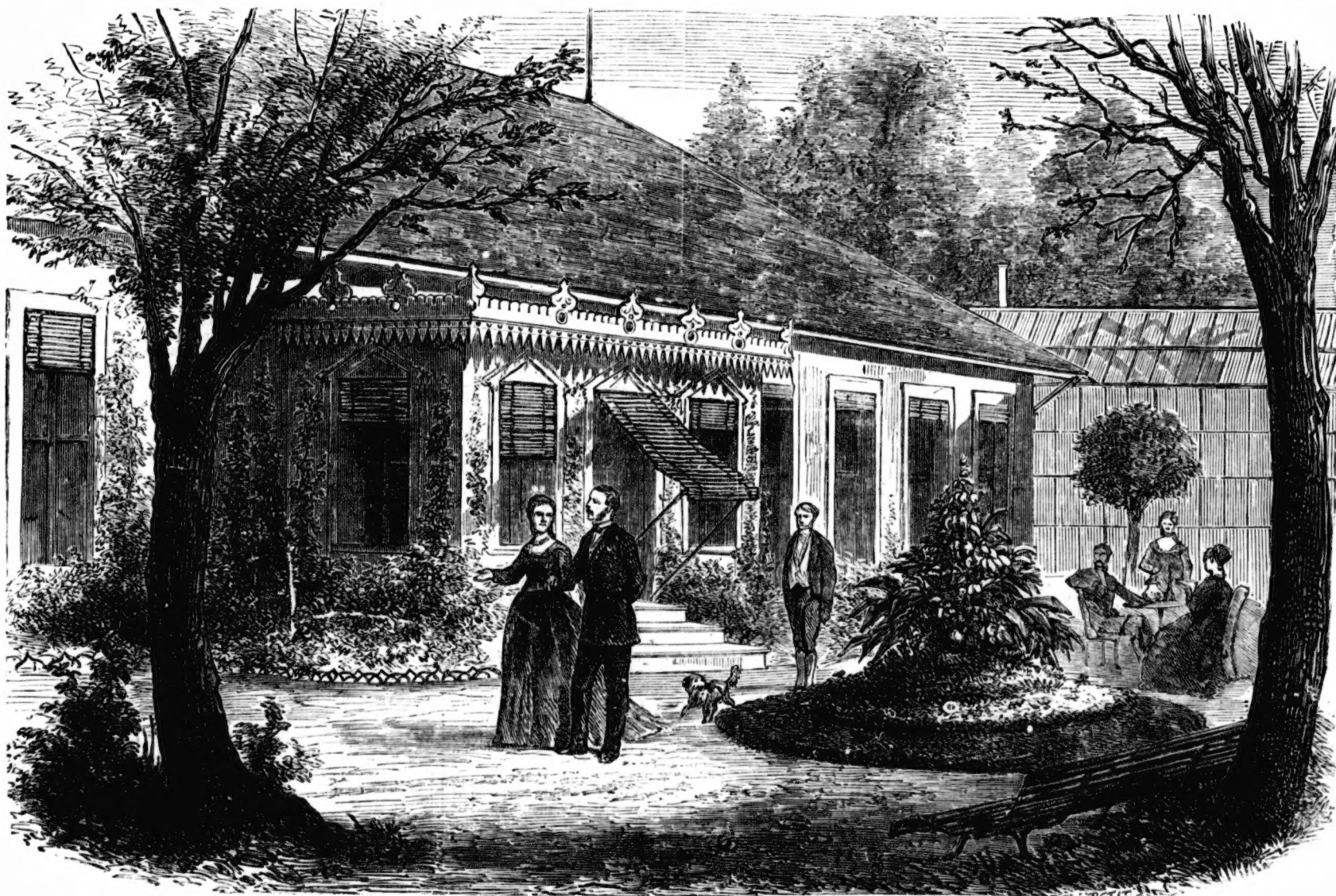
we commented recently have been verified by personal investigation. Walking westwards from Pall-mall, keeping to the streets, and subsequently describing a circle, which included the main Kensington roads and a vast number of the new squares and streets and terraces which have sprung into life during the last dozen years, specimens of the genus beggar are found to abound. Members of the tribe are always to be seen slouching about the areas, basking in the sun by the hoarding of the Horticultural Gardens, and fringing the inclosure where the Hall of Arts and Sciences

approaches completion. But the nuisance exists in every suburb, and, for that matter, in every part of London. No neighbourhood is so poor but has its beggars, and the humbler the people the more numerous their parasites seem. It is an old story enough,

Thus, naturalists have observed a flea  
Hath smaller fleas that on him prey,  
And these have smaller fleas that bite 'em,  
And so proceed *ad infinitum*.

If the dwellers in those portions of aristocratic London which

groan most loudly under the plague of beggars were to take their stand in its poorest neighbourhoods on a Saturday night, they would be amazed at the extent to which the trade of mendicancy is carried on. There is nothing approaching to it in the rich districts; and we should venture to estimate the night's earnings of any one artistic beggar in such a place as the New-cut or the Brill at Somers Town at a far higher rate than those resulting from an average day at the West-End. They are far more numerous and they get more individually. But what is



THE VILLA BRAUNDSWIG, VIENNA, THE RESIDENCE OF THE EX-KING OF HANOVER.



sheer weakness and folly at Kensington has its palliating circumstances in Bethnal-green. The very narrowness of the line between the worker whose week's wages just suffice to find bread for the family, or the head of the household whose earnings are precarious; or the men and women to whom unsatisfied hunger is no myth, and who know cold, and distress, and hopelessness, not as sentimental possibilities, but hard, black facts; the narrowness of the line between these and destitution quickens the sympathies and opens the heart, and it is upon the knowledge of this that the astute beggar trades. We have often seen pennies given away by men and women whose appearance has been more truly woe-begone than those they relieved, and whose painful anxiety to secure the full quantity of food for the money they expended had been fully noticeable five minutes before. Your beggar is no respecter of persons, and levies his black mail with cheerful impartiality. His only estimate is as to the yield his whining brings; and, with all respect to the efforts of the Mendicity Society, we have a shrewd suspicion that little is known on this head yet.

We counted thirty-three beggars between the Athenæum Club and Hyde Park-corner. Between the latter point and where the old Kensington-gate formerly stood there was a comparative lull. Knightsbridge, small as the portion of it which is traversed on the direct Kensington-road, furnished a more imposing contingent than all the remainder of the ground; and it was not until the covers were beaten about Cromwell-road and its dependencies that the full extent of the nuisance was ascertained. We gave up counting out of sheer despair; for beggars seemed to spring up out of the earth whenever ladies or nursemaids came in view. And no wonder, for they were freely relieved, and one old lady, who appeared to be well known, carried a mass of copper loose in a hand-basket, from which she distributed almost without a word, and whenever she was asked. Starting, then, with the foreknowledge that beggars have no partialities, and that their abundance in any particular district is in itself a testimony to the weakness and folly of its inhabitants, the question presents itself—What is to be done? Alms will be given, sometimes from fear, sometimes from laziness, sometimes from kindness, just as long as they are asked for. There is no preventing this, and the beggars know it. On the other hand, it may be conceded that the old stories of luxurians living after the day's imposture, of hot suppers and much drink, of crosing sweepers who accumulate fortunes, and mendicants who are able to bequeath vast sums to their favourite patrons—that these stories are as apocryphal as Charles Lamb maintained. Begging is a poor trade enough; but it is not poorer than thousands of other callings, and it has all the attraction of desultory idleness to recommend it.

Take a few of the more prominent of the figures we saw pursuing their vocation. The majority of them were capable of hard work, and hardly any looked too ill or too feeble for occupation of a lighter kind. The men from the country, who "had walked from Windsor or Gravesend that day without tasting food; who had left their poor wife and dear children—the youngest being only four days old—God bless you, kindly, for listening!—and who only wanted money to take their spade out of pawn to forthwith obtain lucrative employment from the great contractors hard by; who implore you, for the sake of those you love best, to put yourselves for a moment in their position—though sorrow is not for a gentleman or lady like you;" and who, as you make no sign, finally condemn your body and limbs and eyes to fiery extinction with a vigour which is surprising in men in their exhausted state; these beggars, of whom we met half a score promising types in the course of a single walk, might all be got rid of if the police were properly backed up. If the public did its duty the constables could not evade theirs; and it is a fair matter for complaint that the people who are the chief victims will neither prosecute nor give in charge. The beggar who trades on deformity, and his first cousin who makes a profit out of a noisome disease real or simulated—and these again were plentiful enough in the course of our investigations—trusts to his own repulsiveness for bringing him what he wants. Nor is this the most criminal form of begging, if he confines himself to sprawling on the road and looking pitiful. If this case is genuine, that is, if he is really ill, no matter what his character or antecedents may be, he should be taken care of, and not be permitted to linger in the streets; but if his "get up" and demeanour be make-believe—and there are some signal instances of this about town just now—the discipline of the cart's tail would form the finest tonic. One ruffian of this school, whose acquaintance we had resolved to make and to improve upon, was not in his accustomed haunts. This fellow has been known to rest his claim to charity upon having "Just come out of the Smallpox Hospital, which I've no business to be out, Ma'am, as yer may see by my face;" and as he conducts this pleasant practice among ladies only, he levies too much black mail to make it likely he will voluntarily give the wicked imposture up. The women with babies and the troops of ragged children who beg methodically form the most painful sights of all; and these are undoubtedly on the increase. No one who has not devoted time to this one subject, and traversed the streets for the express purpose of estimating the degree of mendicancy to be found in them, can form an adequate notion of the surprising difference between the condition of things now, and that of some years ago. London has always suffered from this particular curse; but it seems to have multiplied out of all proportion through the supineness and folly of almsgivers. In the confessions of the "Real Casual," which were given to the public a few years since, it was made clear that one injudicious gift often converts a man seeking work into a hardened beggar; and in the pass to which matters have come now a heavy responsibility rests upon those who bestow a single penny merely because they are asked for it. The dragons' teeth being sown on the day we refer to were enough to produce an army; and, as an army is already in possession, London will soon be in a bad way, unless it adopts far more earnest measures than seem to have been thought of yet.—*Daily News*.

### THE OPERA.

The performances at the Royal Italian Opera still consist of selections from Mr. Mapleson's repertoire, performed, for the most part, by Mr. Mapleson's singers. However, the theatre and the orchestra are very important contributions on the side of Mr. Gye; and in due time Mme. Patti, Mlle. Lucca, Signor Tamberlik, and Signor Graziani will no doubt arrive, when the realisation of the almost fabulous casts promised by the united managers' programme for the season may be expected. Mlle. Irma de Murska, after appearing as Linda, as Marguerite de Valois in "Les Huguenots," and as the Queen of Night in the "Zauberflöte," was to have been heard on Thursday as the Princess Isabelle in "Robert le Diable;" Robert, Signor Mongini; Alice, Mlle. Titiens.

Mr. Charles Lee, architect of Her Majesty's Theatre, communicates some details respecting the progress of the building. The works were commenced last June, and the theatre must be finished in time to be opened this week. The interior of the building is cleared of the scaffolding, the ceiling decorated, and the box-fronts fixed. The auditorium is smaller than that of the old house, the distance from the stage to the boxes opposite being shortened by 10 ft. The stage, nearly double the area of its predecessor—70 ft. in height, and a clear space of 90 ft. by 52 ft.—is constructed in such a manner that the floor is movable, and the scenery will be worked exclusively from above and below. There are four tiers of boxes, and one half tier, and the boxes are raised in height. Fireproof staircases are constructed from top to bottom of the building, and the number of exits increased from four to nine. An innovation has been introduced in the "float," the flame from the burners being directed downwards at an angle of 45 deg., so that the heat may be conveyed through flues out of the house, and all danger obviated of the performers' dresses catching fire.

### FINE ARTS.

#### INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THE exhibition at the gallery of this institution in Pall-mall is so attractive that we may regard it as the most promising fine-art collection of the season. There are, perhaps, a larger number of good pictures and a greater variety of subject than have ever been placed in previous exhibitions of the society; and it is not easy to give more than a very casual notice of a few of the most striking among so many examples.

Of course, natural scenery is most amply represented, and the visitor cannot fail to remark the prominence of those admirable seapieces which are never wanting at this gallery, and this year challenge more than ordinary attention. The first of these, following the catalogue, is Mr. Rowbotham's "Valeeta and Entrance to Malta Harbour after a Storm;" and, as an example of vigorous treatment and the ability to impart motion to a picture, it is well worthy of its place. The roll of the heavy sea into the harbour is finely rendered. Mr. Hine's Reef at "Peveril Point" is a wonderful bit of sea and spray—real water, and water mingled with mist, which is a difficult thing to paint and yet keep liquid; an altogether different picture, but one full of beauty is the Kyles of Bute, by the same artist. These two and a fine piece of seascape by Mr. J. G. Philp, representing the rescue of a derelict ship, form a group which the visitor finds it difficult to leave, even though he sees, not far off, two other marvellously attractive studies, also by Mr. Hine—"The South Downs, near Eastbourne;" and "Downs near Folkestone." Of the first of these it is hard to speak too highly. It is seldom that any artist has succeeded so admirably in catching the glorious aspect of those undulating lands by the sea, and showing them with their air of stillness broken only by the occasional stir of the sheep. Further on is another study of the Downs, near Willington, which presents just that variety which all lovers of these coast uplands have learned to appreciate; and its tender and careful treatment are sufficient to show that Mr. Hine has devoted himself to the production of this most admirable kind of landscape. "A Summer Breeze off Broadstairs," by Mr. Edwin Hayes, is a very excellent picture of a well-known seaside haunt in one of its most charming aspects; and Mr. Philp, in his "Effect of a Gale, near Falmouth," has given us one of those fine stormy pieces in which he excels. There seems to us to be still that slight paperiness in the waves to which we had occasion to refer in our notice of the last exhibition, but the picture is far too good for hypercriticism; and another picture of his, "A Butress of the Atlantic," is equally remarkable. More really beautiful, however, is "Towan Beach, Evening," an example of what Mr. Philp can do with ruddy light and still, calm water.

Mr. John Mogford's "High and Low Lights at the Mouth of the Tyne" is a work that cannot fail to enhance his reputation: it is seldom that we have seen such an admirable rendering of light as that shown in this picture, where the "clear obscure" of the declining evening is relieved by the glow of the harbour lighthouse, while the murky signal of the coaling steamer glimmers red below. Mr. Sutcliffe's "Bridlington Quay," and the "Commencement of a Gale" by Mr. Hayes, are each to be noted as capital examples of the work for which the artists are so well recognised.

In this connection—that is to say, before we leave the seapieces and turn to landscape—we cannot refrain from mentioning the charming little pictures which have been sent to the exhibition by Mr. J. H. Mole—remarkable, not only for their exquisite beauty of tone and colour, but also for the introduction of children's figures into some of the scenes in a way which, while they are not obtrusive but seem absolutely to belong to the scene itself, is, at the same time, suggestive of a story or incident that immeasurably heightens the attractiveness of the subject.

Of Mr. Edward Hargitt's "View of Perth" it is almost impossible to speak in too high terms. We have never happened to live in Perth, but we can only regret that we are not natives of that lovely spot, if the artist has done it no more than justice. Surely some ardent northern Laird has already bidden discreetly for the picture to hang up above the sideboard where he keeps the old family "mull" and the ancestral toddy-ladle.

Mr. James Fahey has exhibited his fine picture of "Barrow-in-Furness in 1867," and its pendant, a smaller view of the same place as it was in 1846—a record of material and commercial progress which is as good as a volume of statistics, and is to adorn the house of the Mayor of Barrow. What can we say of Mr. Aaron Penley's pictures except that they are full of that glorious deep and tender colour which distinguishes his work? His "Ennerdale Lake, Cumberland," with sunset from the opposite horizon, and his "Upper Lake at Llanberis," are pictures to stand and gaze at almost as one might gaze at the places they represent.

Mr. George Shadlers exhibits two of his admirable pictures with those unexceptionable sheep for which he is so famous; and Mr. Edward Hargitt sends a Highland deer-forest, where the antlered beauties of the scene are finely grouped. Mr. Skinner Prout's "Abbeville," with the light falling so exquisitely on the old street and the grey tower just beyond, always has an appreciative knot of spectators; and his "Rouen" is even more suggestive of that peculiar art which enables him to transfer to paper those quaint old Continental places, with the very texture of their stone and wood work and the fretting made by time upon their cathedrals and gateways. Very full of life and colour, as well as of reality, is this bustling market-place at Rouen, while "Vire" and "Chartres" are, in their way, equally attractive.

Mr. Deane's "Interior of San Francisco Assisi" is a very charmingly-rendered picture, mellow in colour and exhibiting that painstaking care which is never lost in architectural subjects. Mr. Edward Richardson has sent a picture of the Cathedral of St. George, Limburg, which is fine in colour and very elaborately executed. Mr. Wood's "Cathedral at Louvier" is another capital example of architectural study.

Of the pictures which, after all, are generally the most attractive—that is to say, of the figure and narrative subjects—Mr. V. Bromley has contributed three; one of them, "A Mistake," representing a Cavalier, who, kneeling before a masked lady, finds that he has been making love to the wrong person. "Kiss and be Friends" is a mediæval love-passion, where a serving-woman is endeavouring to pacificate her sulky lover, who is going out at the castle gate with averted face and his crossbow clutched savagely in his hand. The "Ferry" seems to tell a story of an escape from pursuit; but Mr. Bromley's stories are not always very translatable, though his drawing is often remarkably careful. Mr. E. H. Corbould, in "My Grandfather's Choice," has presented us with a finely-finished "finick" of the last century, with cap, and fan, and patches, all complete. "The Doubtful Coin," by Mr. H. B. Roberts, is perhaps the most definitely descriptive picture of the exhibition. A poor tenant has gone up before the squire on rent day, and the scrutiny which the miserly great man, assisted by his grey-headed steward, is bestowing on the suspected piece of money is well contrasted with the half-anxious, half-desperately-careless look of the farmer, who feels in vain for another shilling in his empty pocket. The scene is carefully rendered, and the story well conveyed, so that there is no doubt of the picture becoming one of the most popular of the year. Very charming is Mr. John Absolon's "Question of Time," representing two young lovers in a sylvan scene settling the wedding day: so tender and soft, yet so bright and cheerful in colour, is this picture that it is a remarkable feature of the exhibition.

Mr. C. Green's "Cup of Tea," a homely scene, where a young girl is taking that refreshing draught to her grandfather, who is fixed with a touch of gout, is one of those simple pictures full of suggestion, and yet not to be described, since it is what it is by force of the excellent art that it displays. Mr. C. Weigall exhibits "Rip Van Winkle," a well-designed representation of the scene where the Dutchman hears his name called aloud in the mountain as he is on his way homeward. Mr. J. Sherrin's "Valentine" is an amusing bit of real life, representing two servant-girls over their tea, the discussion of which has been temporarily deferred for that of the letter which has just arrived by the post. "Romeo and the Apothecary" is a bit of excellent work, by Mr.

Charles Cattermole, who has given a more natural, and therefore a much more attractive, rendering to the scene than is generally accorded to Shakespeare by artists who condescend to illustrate him. It is really refreshing to find a scene from the great dramatist's flesh-and-blood stories represented by real people, and not by conventional stage figures conventionally treated. Skelt's "penny plain and twopence coloured" did all that artists generally strive to do in depicting the great characters of English drama.

And here we must say a word about a picture which, in spite of technical defects and a certain strange stiffness, we must regard as the most suggestive work in this exhibition—"Faust and Marguerite," by Mr. J. D. Linton. We all know what is the usual rendering of this story. We could sit down and with a blacklead pencil sketch a tolerable imitation of the received Faust of the studio and the art-school; while as to the Mephistopheles, we are annually haunted by him. About April he comes out and stares at us from the wall of almost every exhibition in London. Now, Mr. Linton has given us a Faust quite of another sort than the spruce, deliberate, self-conscious débauché, who never could have loved a Marguerite. His Faust is the young man to whom vice is already bitter in the mouth. His careless dress, his fevered nervous hand, his troubled, half-despairing, and yet anxious face, as he clings to the girl who also clings to him while she turns to pluck the white rose for his breast, are all marvellously suggestive; while as to Mephistopheles—Well, he had perhaps better be out of the picture; and yet one cannot help being glad that he is there, for he is no more than an ugly kind of worldly philosopher: a big-headed, cynical, questioning representative of the barren knowledge which leaves nothing for life, except escape into self-indulgence. We must close our notice of the exhibition by this reference to a very remarkable picture which we predict will prove its originality of conception by provoking no little contradictory criticism.

### CRYSTAL PALACE—SEASON 1869 AND 1870.

THE programme of the sixteenth season is to be issued next week by the directors. From an early copy, it appears that a multitudinous variety of attractions are offered to patrons of the palace. The season will open on Saturday, May 1, with a grand musical festival in honour of Rossini. The orchestra will be on a gigantic scale, approximating with that of the Handel festivals. It will consist of upwards of 3000 carefully-selected performers, including the orchestras of the Crystal Palace Company and the Sacred Harmonic Society, the chorus of the London contingent of the Handel Festival Choir, and numerous other amateurs and professionals of the first rank. The programme will include the overtures to "Semiramide," "La Gazza Lutra," and "William Tell." The "Stabat Mater," a work eminently suited for interpretation by a large body of performers, will form part of the selection, which will also include the Prayer from "Moses in Egypt" and the great scene of the Blessing of the Banners from "The Siege of Corinth." These great works of Rossini have never before been performed by such an imposing force. By special request, the choral march in "Naaman" will be introduced into the programme, and the festival will be conducted by Sir Michael Costa, who was the intimate friend of the great maestro in whose honour the festival will be given.

On May 1, likewise, a transparent scene, which has been specially painted for the Crystal Palace by Mr. Matt Morgan, representing the "silver" and "golden" illuminations of St. Peter's, at Rome, will be exhibited in the concert-hall. Its displays will be accompanied by the music played on the silver trumpets on Easter day in the church itself.

A series of eight grand summer concerts, on the Handel orchestra, conducted by Mr. Manns, will be given on Saturdays in May, June, and July, for which the most eminent artists will be engaged. The now celebrated "Crystal Palace Band" will be considerably reinforced by the best instrumentalists, and the vocal music will be interspersed with first-class instrumental and choral works suitable for the large orchestra employed.

Another great and novel attraction is the announcement of operas to be performed on the complete and most commodious stage which was last year erected in the concert-hall. These will be played in English, supported by thoroughly efficient companies, and will be under the management of Mr. George Perren—Mr. Manns conducting. "The Bohemian Girl," "Lurline," and other popular operas will be produced, the series commencing at the termination of the Whitsuntide amusements.

There will be an alteration in the flower-show arrangements in the coming season. There are to be two grand shows instead of one, taking place on May 15 and June 5. At the first a new and very attractive feature will be an international bouquet show, for which each competitor will exhibit a wedding bouquet, a ball bouquet, and a vase bouquet. The competition, it is expected, will be very interesting. Besides foreign bouquetists, a number of private cultivators and lady visitors to the palace have intimated their intention of entering anonymously for the prizes to be given at this show.

The rose show, always a delightful exhibition, will be held on Saturday, June 19. In August an international show of gladioli will be held. In large numbers these gay flowers produce remarkable effects of colour.

The magnificent displays of fireworks, for which the terrace and grounds of the palace are so admirably suited, will be continued through the coming season. A recent report in the *Times*, describing the fireworks in Rome at Easter, alluded to the palace as far in advance of the Roman displays. The able pyrotechnists of the company—Messrs. Brock, of Nunhead, and M. Ruggieri, of Paris—will add such imposing features to this year's display as will increase the prestige of these popular exhibitions.

The Doré Art-Union, established in connection with the Crystal Palace for the distribution of Gustave Doré's original drawings illustrating Tennyson's "Eldorado," will be continued, but, as the prize-drawing will shortly take place, the subscription-list will close in the course of a month or two.

The directors call attention to the constant improvements made in the service of trains connecting the palace not only with the City and West-End but with the outlying districts of the metropolis. Early in the coming season the palace will also be brought into connection with that vastly-populated portion of London the East-End, by means of the East London line, which will cross the river through the Thames Tunnel. The excursions to the palace from long distances are increasing in number and extent. The two-guinea railway-tickets—a marvel of cheapness—between the palace and the metropolitan districts have been purchased to a large extent, and are daily increasing.

In summing up the many attractions held out to visitors, the Rossini festival, the eight summer concerts, the grand flower shows, the rose show, and minor floral displays, the fireworks displays, archery fêtes, concerts by 5000 children, county cricket-matches, the performances of operas, the holiday and other special rétes, &c., one can only marvel at the extraordinary cheapness of the guinea season ticket. The forenamed attractions, which are comprised in the first three months of the season, are more than sufficient to warrant its description as the "best guinea's worth in the world;" and beyond this it must be borne in mind that scarcely a day passes without some specially attractive entertainment. With each year the experience of the management in the conduct of the palace increases, and it is undoubtedly true that no more liberal or promising season programme has ever been issued by the directors. During the past six months the visitors have been far more numerous than in any former winter season. With the coming attractions it cannot be doubted that this increase will continue to the end of the year.

MR. EDMUND YATES, who it is well known holds a high position in the General Post Office, has been visiting those towns in which newspapers with the largest circulation are issued, with the view of ascertaining the opinions of the newspaper proprietors and others interested in the subject of cheaper postage for printed matter.



## MURRAY V. WEBSTER.

### SHEWARD'S LAST CONFESSION.

City Gaol, Norwich, April 13, 1869, 2.45 p.m.

The voluntary confession of William Sheward, under

I hereby give authority to place the above facts to the Home Secretary and Baron Pigott, but I request that this may not be published at present.

Taken in the presence of the undersigned, this 13th day of April, 1869.

(Signed) **WILLIAM SHEWARD**

(Signed) GODWIN JOHNSON, Visiting Magistrate.

(Signed) GODWIN JOHNSON, Visiting Magistrate.  
ROBERT WADE, Chaplain of the Norwich  
City Gaol.

The Home Secretary, after considering all the documents forwarded to him—including, of course, the above—on Monday intimated to a gentleman from the office of Sharpe and Co., the prisoner's solicitor's agents, that he declined to interfere with the sentence passed; and the execution took place on Tuesday morning.

POLICE.

**JUST TO TRY HIS STRENGTH.**—At Marylebone on Monday, a tall, powerful-looking man, who said his name was William Femister, labourer, was charged with being guilty of the following extraordinary conduct:—John Emery, the prosecutor, said, "I carry on business as a boot and shoe manufacturer at 416, Euston-road. On Saturday evening between the lights, the prisoner came into my shop and said he wanted to be fitted with a pair of boots. I turned round to reach some from a shelf, when he caught me by the waist and threw me up to the ceiling. You may imagine I was very much surprised, and more so when he picked me up and threw me through the glass door, and broke the glass. He was under the influence of drink, and said to me he did not want to hurt me, but merely to show me his strength." Mr. D'Eyncourt—"Is he a powerful man?" Complainant (a short, thickset man)—"He must be, as I am rather heavy." Prisoner—"I had no intention to hurt him; I only wanted to try my strength." Mr. D'Eyncourt asked prisoner what he had to say as regards his strange conduct. Prisoner—"I did not mean to do any harm." Mr. D'Eyncourt (to prosecutor)—"Did he throw you to the ceiling?" Prosecutor—"My head just touched it." Prisoner—"I only wanted to show him how easily I could lift him." Mr. D'Eyncourt said he must pay a fine of 10s., and 5s. damage for breaking glass in the door. The amount was paid.

**ARSON BY SERVANT GIRLS.**—At Worship-street, on Monday, Ellen Toohy, fourteen, and Alice Frances Wimpey, sixteen, were charged with having wilfully and maliciously set fire to their master's premises, in Raven-row, Spitalfields. Mr. Cornelius Boreham, wholesale grocer, of Raven-row, deposed that the prisoners were in his service, Toohy as under nurse, and Wimpey as head nurse. On the afternoon of Sunday, the 11th inst., witness and his wife left home, the prisoners being in the house alone, but a third servant, named Mary Bradley, was to have been home by six o'clock. On witness returning with his wife about eleven o'clock that night he found his premises in the possession of the police and firemen. James Osborne, Inspector of the H division, said that on Sunday, the 11th inst., he went to the house of prosecutor, the fire being then extinguished. He inquired of the prisoners how the fire occurred, and Toohy made a statement to him. Witness cautioned her; she, however, said that he could take down what she said, and proceeded to state that on the Sunday afternoon, after her master and mistress had gone out, herself and Wimpey sat in the nursery with the children until half-past six, at which time they put the children to bed. Soon after, in company with Wimpey, she went up stairs to her master's room. Wimpey had the

**FALSE CHARACTERS AND ROBBERY.**—At the Middlesex Sessions, on Monday, George Oliver, 23, barman, was indicted for stealing the sum of 5s., the moneys of Thomas Brown, his master. Mr. Metcalfe prosecuted, Mr. M. Williams defended the prisoner. The prosecutor is a licensed victualler, and keeps the Portman Arms Tavern, Great Quebec-street, and the prisoner, on March 9, entered his service as barman, and continued as such until the 29th of the same month. In consequence of a deficiency being found in the usual takings at the bar, suspicion fell upon the prisoner, and the usual test was resorted to, of money being marked and given to several persons to pay over the bar for different articles, and to receive the change for the coins so given. On March 29 the prisoner was asked what money he had about him, and on being searched some of the marked money was found in his pocket. He was then given into custody, and charged with stealing the marked money discovered in his possession. The jury immediately returned a verdict of guilty. Mr. Metcalfe said he had something to say as regarded the prisoner, but before he did so he wished that a Mr. Patchett, the keeper of the Rock public-house in Lisson-grove, who was in attendance, might be called into court. Mr. Patchett was called, and having entered the court Mr. Metcalfe said it was in consequence of the good character given to the prisoner by Mr. Patchett that Mr. Brown was induced to take the prisoner into his service. From the very moment he entered his service he commenced robbing him. The prisoner had been tried in this court some time ago for robbing a Mr. Sweet, the keeper of a public-house in Little Newport-street, Russell-square, but was then acquitted, having obtained this situation also by means of a character given to him by the same Mr. Patchett. After the trial Mr. Sweet went to Mr. Patchett, and told him that he had been seriously robbed by the man to whom he had given such a good character, although the jury had acquitted him, being then defended, as he was that day by his learned friend Mr. Montagu Williams. Notwithstanding that warning, Mr. Patchett had since given the prisoner a very high character for honesty to several persons, and it was by one of these he got into the service of the prosecutor. Under these circumstances, he thought it would only have been right that Patchett should have been charged with the prisoner for the conspiracy; but he was told—and he had not time to look into the law himself—that could not be done unless Patchett had given a written and not a verbal character as to the prisoner's honesty. Patchett, who was present, made no observation as to what was said about him. The Assistant Judge ordered Mr. Francis, the deputy clerk of the peace, to communicate these facts to the licensing magistrates of the district in which Patchett's house was situated. Mr. Metcalfe said there was a regular gang of such persons as the prisoner, who went about to rob licensed victuallars. The Assistant Judge sentenced the prisoner to be kept in penal servitude for five years. As the prisoner was leaving the dock for the cell below he made a rush for the purpose of inflicting a blow on Mr. Sweet, a former employer, who was sitting immediately behind the dock, but Oliver was at once seized by Warder Hall, who was in the dock at the time, and prevented from carrying out his purpose, at which he seemed greatly annoyed. Other assistance was then procured, and the prisoner was prevented from committing any further mischief.

**ROBBERY BY GUARDSMEN.**—At the Middlesex Sessions, on Tuesday, George Cox, 27; William Williams, 20; Josephus Betterson, 24; and James Forth, 28, privates in the Guards—Cox in the Coldstreams and the others in the Scots Fusiliers—were indicted for stealing a scarf-pin, value £21, the property of Henry Watson, from his person. Mr. Ribton prosecuted. The prisoners were undefended. The prosecutor, a gentleman residing at Gregory's Hotel, but formerly an officer in the 1st or Royal Regiment, gave his evidence with remarkable clearness. About one in the morning of last Saturday the prosecutor was in the Haymarket, when the four prisoners came up and surrounded him, and Forth snatched his pin. He seized Forth, and told him if it were given up he would not prosecute him, as he himself had worn the uniform. The others enabled Forth to escape, but the prosecutor pursued and caught him in Piccadilly, and brought him back. The other prisoners then told Forth to give up the pin if he had it, and he said it was down an area. A constable came up and Forth was given into custody. The

other three followed to the station, and were then included in the charge. The pin was found the same night in Piccadilly, close to where Mr. Watson had stopped Forth. Cox, Williams, and Betterson alleged in their defence that they were ignorant of any theft by Forth, that when he was charged with stealing the pin they urged him to give it back, and that their following voluntarily to the station was inconsistent with any guilty knowledge on their part. The jury found Forth guilty, and the others not guilty. Forth acknowledged having been previously convicted. The Assistant Judge said that but for the cool courage shown by the prosecutor the prisoner would no doubt have succeeded in escaping. It was a shameful case, and he always considered it a scandalous aggravation of such conduct when it was perpetrated by persons wearing the Queen's uniform. The sentence of the Court was that he be kept in penal servitude for five years.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16.

**BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.**--H. BARRON, Mexbrough, bookkeeper--J. BARRON, Mexbrough, glass-blower--T. BARRON, Mexbrough, glass-blower.

BANKRUPTS.—E. BALLARD, St. Pancras, tailor.—T. BROWN,  
Surrey, shoemaker—J. BASHAM, Bermonsey, carman—J.  
CHAPMAN, Norderph, flourdealer.—CLARKE, Ealing, landowner.  
R. COSIALLI, Hutton, grocer.—W. DAVIS, Camberwell, pork  
merchant.—H. D. GIBBS, Kensington, general dealer.—  
builder—P. REFERTZ, King's Cross, engineer.—W. FRENCH,  
Silverhoe, baker.—W. L. GRIFFIN, Kensington, steam-roller.  
HADLAND, Southgate, licensed victualler.—C. HALES, City-road,  
W. PROCTOR, R. HALE, New Lambeth, ironmonger.—T. TAYLOR,  
Whitechapel, ironmonger.—A. WALLER, Southampton-row,  
Russell-square, coachbuilder.—S. LLOYD, Stoke Newington,  
blackieyer.—J. W. MACKENNA, Regent-street, doctor of medicine.  
F. MAY, Gospel Oak-fields, baker.—J. MAYO, Clapham, carpenter.  
NEWTON, Brewer street, Golden-square, proprietors of St James's  
Grammar School.—A. NEIGHBOUR, Lower Streatham, clerk.—J.  
J. NEWTON, Highlam, fishmonger.—K. NICHOLSON, Blooms-  
bury, upholsterer.—J. PARKES, Maidstone, grocer.—J.  
J. PARKS, Maidstone, grocer.—I. PARKS, Maidstone, baker.—  
PRABHAM, Bayswater, nurseryman.—J. PEARSON, City-road,  
oil-refiner.—J. "PRETORIO," Hatton garden, jeweller.—F.  
PUGH, Finsbury, furniture-maker.—C. RICKARDS, Tottenham,  
builder.—H. SANDERS, Camberwell-road, tinsmith.—T. C.  
SMITH, Little Torrington-street, Torrington-square, plumber—  
C. SUFFELL, Westminster, optician.—G. F. TAYLOR, Oxford,  
bookseller.—H. THOMAS, Tottenham, cooper.—M. TAYLOR,  
M. TESTER, Cheap-side, billbroker.—H. J. TRICKET, Greenwich,  
painter.—B. TROUBLEY, St. Neots, upholsterer.—C. TYLER,  
builder, beer retailer.—R. WAIZER, Le-wisham, warehouseman.  
WILLIAMS, H. H. HARRIS, H. H. HARRIS, H. H. HARRIS, H. H. HARRIS,  
wood-jugl.—T. WHITE, Highbury, clerk.—M. WRIGHT, Plumstead,  
chemist.—J. ADAMS, Philip's Park-road, grocer.—W.  
ALLEN, Liverpool, outfitter.—R. AINSWORTH and G. W.  
GLASS, Manchester, cabinet-makers.—J. ARMSTRONG, Man-  
chester factor.—J. ARMISTRON, Manchester, tailor.—J. BEAM,  
Kingston-on-Hull, horsedealer.—F. E. BELL, Bishop Auckland,  
grocer.—S. BEVINGTON, Hanley, china manufacturer.—R.  
BLACKBURN, Burton-on-Trent, ironmonger.—J. BLACKBURN,  
grocer.—D. BRENNAN, Wolveshampton, commercial traveller.—  
E. BOWDEN, Ollersett, licensed victualler.—M. BRIGGS, Orverton,  
brewer.—G. BRUCE, West Derby oldale.—G. BULLEN, Tyne  
mouth, millwright.—J. BURTON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, brewer.  
W. CARPENTER, Illogan, miner.—T. CATT, Ore, labourer.—  
CLARK, Chipping soddan, innkeeper.—H. CLARE, Lamp-h  
shire-gate.—G. CROFTS, Windsor, commission agent.—J.  
BURTON, Burton-on-Trent, ironmonger.—J. COTTER, Saint  
retailer.—DAVID, Whitechapel, dentist.—J. DAVIES,  
Haywards-west, coal merchant.—A. DENTON, Halifax, wool  
sorter.—P. ELLIS, Felsted wheelwright.—J. FISHER, Triton,  
iron roller.—J. FLETCHER, Liverpool, millwright.—J.  
FRANKS, Liverpool, tobacconist.—J. FRANKS, Liverpool, worth  
clerk.—J. GRAHAM, Huddersfield, beerhouse-keeper.—  
GRIFFITHS, Aston, gun manufacturer.—J. GRISNETH-WHITE,  
Manchester, licensed victualler.—W. H. B. GURK, Brighton,  
sea-bath.—W. H. GURK, Brighton, sea-bath.—J. HADFIELD,  
HUMPHRIES, Birmingham, cabinet case manufacturer.—T. S.  
JONES, Cardiff, coal merchant.—J. JENNINGS, jun., Kirkland  
bookmaker.—J. JOSE, Upper Isidor, potato merchant.—W. JOSE,  
Liverpool, wine and spirit merchant.—J. KEE, Sheffield, iron  
wate—G. LEE, Chesterfield, beerhouse-keeper.—S. LEE, shell oil  
dealer in sewing machines.—E. H. LINCKER, Rochesill, surgeon.  
A. LUNN, Almondsbury, machine fitter.—W. MASON, Farnham,  
gunmaker.—J. MASON, Farnham, gunmaker.—J. MASON,  
J. OWEN, Oswestry, commission agent.—J. PITTMAN, Ermscot  
licensed victualler.—J. PARSONAGE, Edgbaston, licensed victu-  
alier.—J. H. RAYNER, Huddersfield, cloth-finisher.—J.  
RAYNER, Huddersfield, cloth-finisher.—J. REED, Plym-  
ingham, cabinetmaker.—F. SIGNAL, Lower Clerk, beerhouse  
keeper.—J. S. SMITH, Castledare, farmer.—W. SMITZ, Devonport  
keeper.—SHELMERDINE, Manchester, hatter.—J. A. SIMMONDS,  
H. I. PINKIN, H. I. PINKIN, H. I. PINKIN, H. I. PINKIN,  
coal merchant.—T. WALKER, Nottingham, builder.—H. WATSON,  
Reading, plumber.—T. G. WHITE, Liverpool, cotton-broker.—  
W. WHITE, Liverpool, cotton-broker.—J. WYBBREW, Sawbridge  
ILD, Hyde, provision-dealer.—J. WYBBREW, Sawbridge  
WYBBREW, Sawbridge, provision-dealer.—J. WYBBREW, Sawbridge  
MONCK, Stamford, gunmaker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—W. FERGUS, Glasgow, accountant—A. DUNCAN, Carnoustie, draper—R. STEWART, Dundee, hotel-keeper—A. OLIVER, Bogan-green, farmer—W. SHARP, Glasgow, goldsmith.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—A. SILVESTER, Westminster prestidigitateur.

PEARCE, A. L. - W. ADcock, Lockington, Clapham -  
 BARRETT, B. - Terrell, bookmaker - J. BARNETT, St. John's-  
 marine store dealer - C. A. BENNETT, New Windsor, br. rhosus  
 keeper - R. W. BROOKES, Shorehith, hawser - H. BROWNITT  
 Chelmsford, commission agent - C. T. CAMPFIELD, London, draper -  
 M. CHALMERS, London, draper - J. S. CANNON, London, draper -  
 West Brompton, timberkeeper - J. S. DAVIS, Westminster, bridge-  
 road, professor of music - T. DRAN, Markyate-street, Hertford-  
 shire, butcher - L. EMANUEL, Henrietta-street, Manchester  
 square, wine merchant - J. E. FENNELL, London, draper -  
 A. A. GAZLINI, Wandsworth, clerk - J. T. GARDNER, St.  
 Mary-ax, wine merchant - J. WOOD, Dewsbury, wheelwright -  
 E. GILES, sen., Minorities, storeman - S. GIDDON, Croydon  
 street, draper - J. GILBERT, London, draper -  
 HANCOCK, Clapham, beer-shop keeper - G. HUGGIN, Great Trow-  
 street, merchant - F. C. HURST, Southwark, pewterer - A. JON'S  
 Surbiton-hill, gasfitter - W. G. KEMP, Millwall ironmonger - R.  
 G. KENT, Southwark, draper - B. LINSSELL, Stebbing  
 farmer - H. J. LINSSELL, Hackney  
 MADDOX, Houghton, innkeeper - F. MARCEAU, Circus-  
 Braynton-square, French polisher - L. NAPPEK, Horsham  
 C. E. P. RALLIE, Baywater, builder - G. SMAR, Battersea Park  
 water - S. V. BATES, Battersea, carpenter - E. THULVAL, Wal-  
 worth, draper -  
 National Plate Glass Insurance Company - H. WHITE, Walworth  
 store, daylman - F. WHITE, Harwich, draper - J. AINGE  
 Aldgate, baker - C. ATKINSON, Selby, potter merchant - F.  
 BOTT, London, draper -  
 brownish, maltster - F. BICK, St. Arvans, hotel-keeper - A.  
 BLEAKMAN, Liverpool, shipwright - W. BURNES, Stockton-on-  
 Tees, draper's assistant - J. E. BURTON and E. BROOKE, Brad-  
 ford, draper -  
 CASHMORE, Penny Stratford, licensed victualler - E. COBBY  
 Preston, confectioner - W. J. CRANSTON, Liverpool, hardwareman -  
 H. DAVIES, Manchester, coal merchant - E. DALLY, Yorkford  
 bridge, London, draper - J. DAVIES, London, draper -  
 J. DARGES, Bristol, house agent - T. DRUMMOND,  
 grocer - E. EBERINGTON, Newcastle-on-Tyne, sackdealer - C.  
 FITZGERALD, Brighton - J. FOSTER, jun., Chelvey, boot-  
 maker - J. H. GARDNER, Birmingham, draper - J. HALE, Navenby  
 pig jobber - T. L. HARRIS, Birmingham, dealer - W. H. HARRIS,  
 Cusack - J. T. HAWKINS, Walsall, licensed victualler - J. S.  
 HEWLETT, Cinderford, grocer - J. G. HEY THORP, Fallowshill,  
 Birmingham, Newchurch, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer - T. H.  
 HOLFORD, Huddersfield, draper -  
 J. R. HURST, Liverpool, biscuit manufacturer - P. HYDE  
 Powick, licensed victualler - W. ILSHERWOOD, Stockport  
 licensed victualler - W. JAMSON, Litherington, painter - E. L.  
 M. DODD, Great cardiff, draper - J. JOHNSON, London, draper -  
 victualler - R. LEAMAN, Bristol, brightemith - B. J. MARKS  
 Brighton, woollen merchant - J. MOFFATT, Daresham, grocer - D.  
 MORRISON, Brighton, merchant - I. NATHAN and S. LEVY  
 S. OAKLEY, Halesowen, chemist - J. OLLESTON, Wigan, draper -  
 R. ROBERTS, Flint, cattle-dealer - G. ROCKETT, Dewsbury  
 tailor - J. ROSE, jun., Houndgate, Nottinghamshire, painter - R.  
 HORNE, London, draper - J. S. SUGGLOCK, jun., Haverfordwest, tailor - C.  
 SMITH, Empingham, black-mith - I. SMITH, Hatfield, butcher -  
 J. SPEIGHT, Bedford, worsted-spinner - S. J. TOTT and W. H.  
 TOTT, London, draper - STANLEY, London, draper -  
 grocer - J. H. STUART, Aston, accountant - R. WATKINS,  
 Mexborough, horse-meat-keeper - H. SYMONS, Buckfastleigh,  
 butcher - A. WHITE, Gosdinning, harness-maker - W. S. TINGBY,  
 London, draper -  
 RICHARDSON, Melbourne, grocer - J. FURBEISS, Birmingham,  
 builder.

On the 20th inst., at Cannes, south of France, Captain Robert Augustus Dalzell, late Scots Fusilier Guards, younger and only surviving son of Colonel the Hon Harry Burrard Dalzell, in his 31st year.



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